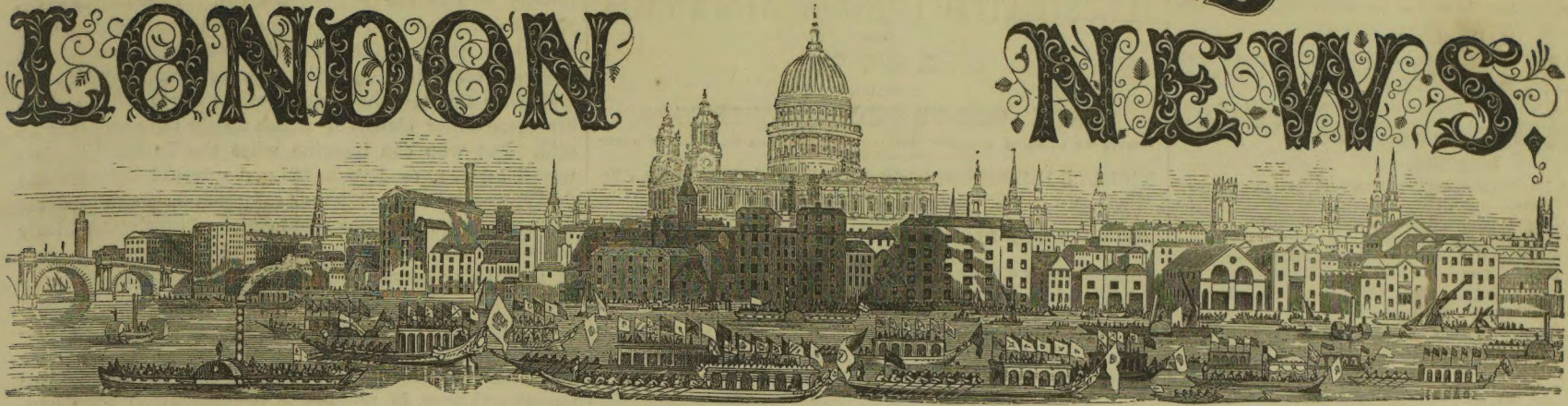


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

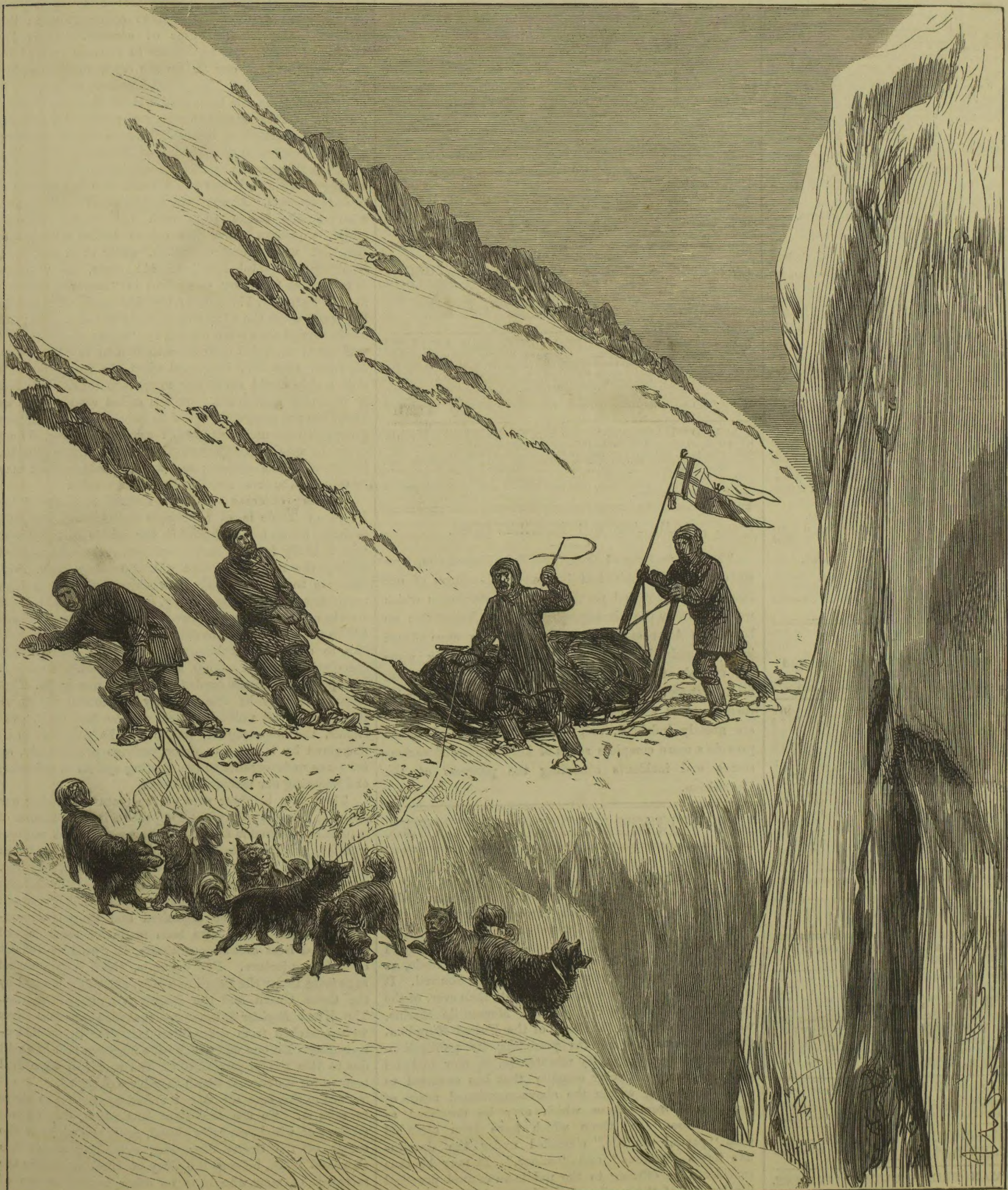


REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1946.—VOL. LXIX.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1876.

WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS {SIXPENCE.
By Post, 6½d.



THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION: THE ROAD BETWEEN THE ALERT AND THE DISCOVERY.

BIRTHS.

On the 4th inst., at Portland-place, Lady Cecilia Bingham, of a son.
On the 4th inst., at Dalkeith House, Lady Margaret E. Jameson, of a son and heir.
On the 19th ult., at Windsor, the wife of Francis W. Robins, late 60th Rifles, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 7th ult., at St. George's, Barbadoes, West Indies, by the Lord Bishop of Barbadoes, the Rev. Francis John Ambrose, B.A., to Leonora, eldest daughter of John Greaves, of Lower Estate, Barbadoes.
On the 1st inst., at St. Michael's, Betchworth, F. J. Patton, Esq., B.A. of Ball. Coll., Oxon, Barrister-at-Law of the Inner Temple, to Edith, third daughter of C. J. Furlonger, Esq., of Old House, Betchworth.

DEATHS.

On the 4th inst., at Meadowfield, Whitby, Henry, eldest son of Henry Simpson, Esq., aged 27 years.
On the 4th inst., at Grosvenor-place, Lydia, Viscountess Dillon.
On the 2nd inst., at Casewick, Lady Kesteven.
On the 5th inst., at Craigflower, in life, Andrew John Wedderburn, the only child of the Right Hon. Sir James Wm. Colville, in his 18th year.

* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOV. 18.

SUNDAY, Nov. 12.
Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. Prebendary Currey, Master of the Charterhouse; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Gregory; 7 p.m., the Rev. Evan Daniel, Principal of Battersea Training College.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., the Rev. Canon Prothero; 3 p.m., the Rev. F. Meyrick, Rector of Blickling.
Whitehall, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., the Rev. F. J. Jayne.
Sevoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen; 7 p.m., the Rev. W. T. Du Boulay, Vicar of St. Mary's, Brompton.
Temple Church, 11 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, the Master; 3 p.m., the Rev. A. Ainger, the Reader.

MONDAY, Nov. 13.
Gresham Lectures, Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m., the Very Rev. J. W. Burdon, Dean of Chichester, on Divinity (and two following days).
Medical Society, 8.30 p.m.
Royal Academy, 8 p.m. (Professor F. S. Barff on Chemistry).
Monday Popular Concerts, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.
Geographical Society, 8.30 p.m. (address by the President, Sir Rutherford Alcock; Sir T. Douglas Forsyth on the Buried Cities of the Gobi Desert, Eastern Turkestan).
Institution of Surveyors, 8 p.m. (Address by Mr. Edmund James Smith, the president).
Meteors probably visible.

TUESDAY, Nov. 14.
Temple: Dr. Vaughan's Readings in the Greek Testament (second Corinthians), 8 a.m. (and next three days).
Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8 p.m.
Anthropological Institute, 8 p.m.
Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m. (Mr. R. H. Brunton on the Japan Lights).
West London Scientific Association, 8 p.m. (the Rev. Henry Housman on our Wild Birds; Madame A. F. di Tegnone on Marine Algae of the Channel Islands).
Clare Market Dispensary, quarterly general meeting, 3 p.m.
Bournemouth, first annual Exhibition of Domestic Animals, Poultry, &c.
National Poultry Show, Crystal Palace (four days).
School for Indigent Blind, St. George's, special general court for elections, Cannon-street Hotel, noon.
Colonial Institute, 8 p.m. (the Duke of Manchester in the chair—Mr. J. Dennistoun Wood on the Benefits to the Colonies of being Members of the British Empire).
Shrewsbury Races.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 15.
Accession of Christian IX., King of Denmark, 1863.
Meteorological Society, 7 p.m. (Mr. William Marriott on the Results of Observations at Rossinière, Canton Vaud, Switzerland, 1874-5; Mr. R. L. Holmes on the Climate of Fiji; Mr. H. C. Russell on Errors of Thermometers at Sydney).
British Archaeological Association, 8 p.m. (Mr. C. Roach Smith on the Roman Stone Street; Mr. Herbert New on the Stained Glass at Preston-on-Stour Church).
Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (opening address by Lord Alfred Churchill, the chairman).

THURSDAY, Nov. 16.
New Moon, 0.48 a.m.
Gresham Lectures, Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (the Very Rev. B. M. Covie, Dean of Manchester, on Geometry), and next day.
Westminster Abbey, College Hall, Canon Farrer, First of Six Lectures on the Triumph of Christianity over Judaism and Paganism (for the Lay Helpers' Association), 8 p.m.
Linnean Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe on Birds of the Philippine Archipelago; Mr. H. N. Moseley on the Flora of Marion Island).
Royal Society, 8.30 p.m.
Psychological Society, 8.30 p.m.
Royal Academy, 8 p.m. (Professor F. S. Barff on Chemistry).
Numismatic Society, 7 p.m.
Royal Albert Hall, Mr. W. Carter's choir, 8 p.m. ("St. Paul").
Chemical Society, 8 p.m. (the late Dr. Anderson on Barwood; Mr. G. S. Johnstone on Potassium Trichloride; Mr. G. S. D. Humphreys on the Coal-Gas of the Metropolis; Mr. J. B. Hannay on Calcium Sulphate).
British Home for Incurables, Clapham, general meeting and elections, City Terminus Hotel, noon.
Bristol Dog Show (four days).

FRIDAY, Nov. 17.
Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 2 p.m.
Philological Society, 8 p.m. (Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte on the Somersetshire Dialect; Mr. C. A. M. Pennell on Corssen and his Critics).
Medical Microscopical Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. C. H. Golding-Bird on Rodent Ulcers).

SATURDAY, Nov. 18.
Gresham Lectures, Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (Dr. J. T. Abdy on Law, three days).
Saturday Popular Concert, St. James's Hall, 3 p.m.
Artisans' Institute, 8 p.m. (Dr. C. Lemprière on the Relation of the Ottoman Empire to its Christian Population).

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.	
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 p.m.	Maximum, read at 10 a.m.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.
November	Inches.	°	°	°	0-10	°	°		Miles. In.
1	30.308	39.7	31.4	74	1	33.0	45.3	NNW.	140 "000
2	30.302	40.9	35.6	83	3	31.5	48.4	WSW. W.	125 "000
3	30.198	46.5	42.2	86	10	36.7	51.0	WSW.	94 "140
4	30.284	50.3	48.5	94	10	46.4	54.8	WSW. ENE.	63 "130
5	30.240	49.6	48.5	96	10	46.3	53.0	ENE.	114 "008
6	30.201	45.2	36.2	73	6	39.4	51.0	NNW. N.	122 "000
7	30.159	39.2	31.1	75	2	33.5	44.8	N. NNW.	132 "000

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:-

Barometer (in inches) corrected	30.303	30.321	30.240	30.250	30.232	30.210	30.188
Temperature of Air	39.6	41.6	45.2	50.1	44.6	50.6	39.9
Temperature of Evaporation	35.7	38.7	43.4	49.6	43.3	47.4	37.7
Direction of Wind	NNW.	WSW.	WSW.	W.	E.	N.	NNW.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 18.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
11 6	11 34	11 07	10 40	10 14	9 48	9 21

DORE'S TWO GREAT WORKS, "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM" and "CHRIST ENTERING THE TEMPLE," (the latter just completed, each 33 by 22 ft.; with "Dream of Pilate's Wife," "Christian Martyrs," "Night of the Crucifixion," "House of Calaphas," &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street. Daily, Ten to Six. 1s.

THE MUSEUM GALLERY OF PAINTINGS (Four Doors West of British Museum). Great Russell-street-buildings.—Important Eastern Picture on Exhibition.—THE TURKS BEING DRIVEN OUT OF EUROPE BY THE POLISH ARMY UNDER SOBIESKI. Admission by Name and Address Card.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—PICTURE GALLERY.—Open all the year round for the reception and sale of Pictures by the British and Foreign Schools. For particulars apply to Mr. C. W. Wass, Crystal Palace.

MR. and Mrs. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT. MATCHED AND MATED, by F. C. Burnand. Music by German Reed. OUR TABLE D'HÔTE, by Mr. Corney Grain, and THE THREE TENANTS. Every Evening, except Thursday and Saturday, at Eight; every Thursday and Saturday, at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 5s.—ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place, Oxford-circus.

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TWELVE ENGRAVINGS
AS HEADINGS TO THE CALENDAR.

ASTRONOMICAL DIAGRAM OF REMARKABLE PHENOMENA,
WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES.

The Royal Family of Great Britain; the Queen's Household; her Majesty's Ministers; Lists of Public Offices and Officers; Bankers; Law and University Terms; Fixed and Movable Festivals; Anniversaries; Acts of Parliament passed during the Session of 1876; Revenue and Expenditure; Obituary of Eminent Persons; Christian, Jewish, and Mahomedan Calendars; Table of Stamps, Taxes, and Government Duties; Times of High Water; Post-Office Regulations; together with a large amount of useful and valuable information, which has during the past thirty-one years made the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK the most acceptable and elegant companion to the library or drawing-room table; whilst it is universally acknowledged to be by far the cheapest Almanack ever published.

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ST. JAMES'S HALL.

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MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND SATURDAY,
AT THREE AND EIGHT.

Every Night at Eight: Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at Three and Eight. Fauteuils, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.; Private Boxes, 2s. 12s. 6d. and 11s. 6d. No fees. No charge for Programmes.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.—Lessee and

Manager, F. B. Chatterton.—Mr. BARRY SULLIVAN every evening as Richard III. On MONDAY and during the week, at Seven, THAT BEAUTIFUL PICTURE, A Quarter to Eight, RICHARD III.—Mr. Barry Sullivan, Messrs. H. Sinclair, J. E. Cathcart, C. Vandenhoff, H. Russell, F. Tvars, H. M. Clifford, Douglas, H. Evans, G. R. Ireland, Percy Bell, C. H. Fenton, Jas. Johnstone, R. Dolman, J. B. Johnson, Master Graham, Mrs. Hermann, Madam Fanny Huddart, Misses Edith Stuart and Gratton.—THE STORM FIEND.
Prices from 6d. to 24 4s. Doors open at Half-past Six, commence at Seven o'clock. Box-Office open from Ten till Five daily.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.

EVERY EVENING, at Seven, the New Play (from the French), called TRUE TELL DEATH—Miss Helen Barry, Mr. William Rignold, Mr. William Redmond, and Mr. Henry Marston; and powerful Company. New Scenery by Mr. Richard Douglass. Splendid Costumes.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.—SATURDAY

MORNING, NOV. 11, at 2.30, BOHEMIAN GIRL; Saturday Evening, MARIANNA; Monday, 13th, ZAMPA; Tuesday, 14th, FIDELIO; Wednesday, 15th, Last Performance of JOCONDE; Thursday, 16th, BOHEMIAN GIRL; Friday, 17th, WATER-CARRIER. Conductor, Mr. Carl Rosa. Box-Office open Ten till Five. No Booking Fees. Seats may also be secured at the Libraries, &c. Doors open at 7.30; commence at Eight.

MISS EMILY MOTT'S FOURTH GRAND EVENING

CONCERT, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, FRIDAY, NOV. 24.—Vocalists: Madame Blanche Cole, Miss Agnes Larkcom, and Miss Emily Mott; Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. W. T. Wrighton, Mr. Thurlay Beale, and Mr. Winn. Solo Pianoforte: Miss Clinton Fries. The Band of the Grenadier Guards (by permission of the Commanding Officer). Conductors: Sir Julius Benedict, Mr. J. B. Zerbini, and Mr. Dan Godfrey. Reserved Sofa Stalls, 7s.; Tickets, 5s., 3s., 2s., and 1s; at Austin's Ticket-Office, St. James's Hall; all Music Publishers; and of Miss Emily Mott, 190, Kennington-road, S.E.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.

Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—Forty-fifth Season.—FRIDAY, NOV. 24, Handel's ISRAEL IN EGYPT. Principal Vocalists: Madame Nouver, Miss Ellen Horne, Miss Julia Elton; Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Lewis Thomas, Mr. Hilton, Organist, Mr. Wilkin. Tickets, 3s., 5s., 7s., and 10s. 6d., and 15s. 6d. Subscription for Ten Concerts, 22 2s., 22 12s. 6d., and 23 2s. (including admission tickets for the Handel Festival in June, 1877). Office, 6, Exeter Hall, open from Ten till Five. Season Prospectuses forwarded upon application.

OUR ARCTIC ENGRAVINGS.

The Illustrations of the North Pole Expedition, presented in this week's and last week's Numbers of our Journal, are supplied partly by the photographs which were taken by the photographers of the Expedition on board the Alert and Discovery, and which were placed in our hands, by official authority, immediately upon the arrival of the ships at home; but we have also been favoured, by officers of the ships and others, with their sketches and drawings, for the use of which we are greatly indebted, and which have enabled us to provide a more complete series of Illustrations of various scenes and incidents attending the progress of the Expedition.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1876.

One of the most deeply interesting documents annually put forth by authority and furnishing materials for elucidating the physical and moral condition of the British population is the *Wreck Register and Chart*, compiled and published under the direction of the Board of Trade, an abstract of which recently appeared in this Journal. It is a complete record, now more complete than ever, of the casualties which have befallen the Mercantile Marine, within ten miles from the shores of the United Kingdom, during the twelve months preceding its publication. Almost microscopic in its minuteness, it now includes wellnigh every particular casualty that has occurred to shipping passing within the above-mentioned range of our shores—from those which may be described as "total losses" to those which have been attended with "partial damage," classified under the descriptive terms "serious" and "minor." It may be thus considered as offering to the public an annual practical illustration of the perils of the deep—of those perils to which that section of our countrymen is exposed who pursue their avocation upon the surface of the mighty

waters. Year by year we become more seriously impressed with the growing magnitude of the debt of thanks which the great non-seagoing proportion of the community owe to our gallant seamen. They so far make England what she is that, but for them, their labour, their exposure, their endurance, the country would almost instantly cease to occupy the foremost position which she maintains amongst the Nations of the Earth. True, there are some other classes of which nearly the same may be said. But who can imagine what the United Kingdom would become, or how swiftly she would dwindle and decay, were the brave hands to which is committed the daily working out of our commercial enterprises suddenly withdrawn?

One thing immediately strikes even a comparatively careless student of the *Wreck Register and Chart*—namely, the large proportion of casualties resulting from preventable causes; in other words, from inattention, carelessness, neglect, defects in the ship or in her equipments, and unseaworthiness, in proportion to those which have happened from "stress of weather." The fury of the elements is not, perhaps, the worst, not certainly the most frequent, adversary with which our Tars have to contend. No fewer than 659 collisions occurred near the coasts of the United Kingdom during the year 1874-5. Some of these may possibly have been unavoidable; the greater number, we fear, must be set down to some lack of ship discipline, the maintenance of which is perhaps one of the best safeguards both of life and of property at sea. We are not disposed to comment upon this fact in indiscriminate terms of censure. It is impossible, however, not to discern in it some ground for the conclusion that our sailors are oftentimes themselves their direct enemies. No ship, however well found in other respects, is safe from peril if it be ill-officered or ill-manned. Circumstances to which we need not specifically refer have operated of late to introduce among our crews a larger proportion than usual of Foreign hands; and, although this remark, perhaps, applies more forcibly to ocean-going ships, it has some truth also in relation to trading coasters. At any rate, be the cause what it may, whether the blame rests with shipowners or with crews, we learn from the report before us that of the 2931 wrecks and casualties, other than collisions, resulting in "total loss" in 411 cases, in "serious damage" in 981 other cases, and in "minor accidents" in 1539 instances, 177 only of the first class of casualties happened when the wind was at the force of a gale; 393 of the second class were caused by "stress of weather;" and 906 of the third class are set down to the like cause. No fewer than 1877 happened when the wind was such that a ship could carry her topgallant sails. The fact is painfully significant. It has called aloud—and, we hope, has not altogether called in vain—for precautionary and preventive measures, which as yet, however, do not cover the whole ground of need. Attention, nevertheless, is directed to the subject; and we earnestly trust it may be exercised to some sensibly beneficial results.

Another outcome of the Statistical Register of the Board of Trade is of analogous significance, and will, perhaps, create some surprise in the minds of those who take a lively interest in the subject. It is found that during the nine years and a half ending June, 1875, disasters to comparatively new ships bear a very high proportion to the whole number, and that, in 1874-5, 338 wrecks and casualties happened to nearly new ships, and 646 to ships from three to seven years of age. We should like to see some explanation, even if it were mainly speculative, of this rather astounding fact. That it is susceptible of rational explanation we do not doubt. That shipowners may be able partially to account for it we think not at all unlikely. But, on the face of it, as it stands, the non-seagoing public will be very apt to be staggered by it; and to draw, perhaps prematurely, an inference unfavourable to the existing system of officering and manning our mercantile Navy.

There is a brighter side of the picture claiming our notice. The loss of life as compared with the number of casualties reported is not so great as most of us perhaps would have anticipated. In 1874-5 it was 926, or 424 in excess of that recorded for 1873-4; 331 of these, however, were lost from one great shipwreck, that of the German steam-ship Schiller. How much greater that loss would have been but for the organised and thoroughly systematic efforts which have been made for the rescue of threatened lives around our coasts, it would be difficult even to conjecture. For example, there is the rocket apparatus under the Board of Trade, efficiently worked by the Coast Guard and the Rocket Volunteer Brigades. The *Wreck Register* informs us that 355 precious lives were snatched from destruction last year by its instrumentality. No one will grudge the large amount of credit due to this public provision for the rescue of imperilled seamen for the success which they have obtained. True it is, that in this case life is not risked by those who strive to save it. To the Life-Boat Institution, the various stations of which, skilfully placed, cover the whole of the coasts of the United Kingdom, extending about five thousand miles, belongs the glory of effecting mainly the salvation of men who have no other human means of rescue to look to in their hour of extreme danger. Three hundred stations are furnished with the boats of this institution, whose well-trained and experienced crews

hold themselves ready, day or night, in all weathers, to launch forth upon the seething deep for the purpose of delivering their fellow-men from the destruction which seems to await them. One can hardly imagine the rapture of thankfulness with which shipwrecked mariners descry from the distance the approach of one of these life-saving boats—the hopes which spring up out of the depths of despair, the grateful ejaculations which hail their advance, the joy with which a landing is effected, and the dangerous adventure is looked back upon both by those who have achieved it and by those for whom it has been achieved. No doubt, the first place in honour, as it regards this noble work, is due to the Royal National Life-Boat Institution, by the activities of which, during the year which is under our review, 632 lives were saved, and, in addition, 25 vessels rescued from destruction. All honour to the institution, one of the noblest of which England can boast! Be it ours to recognise it by contributing according to our means to its well-used resources.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service on Sunday at Crathie church. The Rev. A. Campbell officiated, and administered the holy communion. Her Majesty and the Princess left Balmoral Castle, on Monday, for a short stay at the Glassalt Shiel. Princess Beatrice visited the Hon. Lady Biddulph, on Saturday last, at Abergeldie Mains. Sir Thomas and the Hon. Lady Biddulph have dined with the Queen. The Marchioness Dowager of Ely has succeeded the Countess of Erroll as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. Lord Charles Fitzroy has left the castle; and Major-General Ponsonby and Lord Sackville have arrived.

The Court will return to Windsor Castle next week.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, and Prince John of Glücksburg, visited the Duchess of Cambridge at St. James's Palace on Thursday week. The Prince, Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, and Prince John of Glücksburg, visited M. Boehm's studio, the Avenue, Fulham-road, in the morning. Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse dined with the Prince and Princess at Marlborough House. The three Princes went to the Criterion Theatre in the evening. The Prince and Princess, with Princes Albert Victor and George and Princesses Louise Victoria and Maud of Wales, Prince Louis of Hesse, and Prince John of Glücksburg, left Marlborough House, yesterday week, for Sandringham. Their Royal Highnesses travelled from St. Pancras station by a special train, via Cambridge, to Wolferton, whence they drove to Sandringham House. His Royal Highness presented the gold medal for the year won by Mr. Edgar Hall at King's Lynn School. The Prince and Princess, with their sons and visitors, attended Divine service, on Sunday, at St. Mary Magdalene's Church in the park. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow officiated. Prince John of Glücksburg took leave of their Royal Highnesses, on Monday, and left Sandringham on his return to Denmark. Captain Nares and Sir John Drummond Hay, her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the Emperor of Morocco, who had been on a visit to the Prince and Princess, also left for London. The Duke and Duchess of Westminster, Earl and Countess Granville, and other visitors arrived early in the week at Sandringham. The Prince, with his guests, has had good sport shooting. His Royal Highness attained his thirty-fifth year on Thursday. The auspicious occasion was celebrated with the customary honours at Windsor and in the metropolis; at Sandringham the usual festivities took place, and the next evening the Prince and Princess gave a county ball.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh entertained at dinner, at their residence at Malta, on Monday, the 23rd ult., the Grand Duke Alexis, the Grand Duke Constantine, Prince Louis of Battenberg, Lady Mary Butler, Colonel the Hon. D. T. Monson, Mrs. Carr, Mrs. Waymouth, Sir Victor Houlton, Sir Adrian Dingli, Colonel and Mrs. Baynes, Colonel Boldero, and Lieutenant Gillon, 71st Highland Light Infantry. Dr. William Playfair has received a summons to proceed to Malta, in order to be in attendance on the Duchess of Edinburgh at Malta during her approaching accouchement.

Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne went to the Vaudeville Theatre on Wednesday evening.

The Duke of Cambridge and the officers of the staff at headquarters gave a complimentary banquet, last Saturday evening, at the Pall Mall, Regent-street, to General Sir Richard Airey, G.C.B., on his retirement from the post of Adjutant-General of the Forces. The Duke presided.

King Francis and Queen Mary of Naples have arrived at Park View, Towcester, for the hunting season.

The Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz has visited the Exhibition of Pictures by British and Foreign Artists, at the French Gallery, Pall-mall.

Duke Frederic of Schleswig-Holstein has arrived at Cumberland Lodge from Germany, on a visit to Prince and Princess Christian.

His Excellency the German Ambassador and Countesses Marie and Olga Münster left the German Embassy, on Saturday last, for Brighton.

His Excellency the Brazilian Minister has returned to town. Baroness de Penedo is staying at Mentone.

His Excellency the Minister of the United States and Mrs. Pierrepont have returned to their residence in Cavendish-square from a visit to the Right Hon. Gathorne and Mrs. Hardy at Hemsted Park, Staplehurst.

The Duke and Duchess of Bedford and the Ladies Russell have left Eaton-square for Berlin, on a visit to the British Ambassador and Lady Odo Russell.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon has arrived at his residence in Belgrave-square from Balmoral.

The Duchess Eleanor of Northumberland has returned to Stanwick Park, Yorkshire, from visiting the Duke and Duchess of Cleveland at Raby Castle.

Lord Hartington took part in a political demonstration yesterday week night, on the occasion of the opening of a new Liberal Club at Keighley. The noble Lord, in the course of his address, advised the Liberal party to bury their dissensions, to become more united, and to preserve a more unbroken front. He condemned the policy of the Government upon affairs in the East, and attributed to it in a great measure the complications which had occurred. He urged that a policy of non-interference in the affairs of Turkey was a mistake, and that there should be concerted action between the European Powers for the introduction of reforms and better government.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Barnsdale, J. Gorton, to be Curate of Ospringe, Kent.
Bell, G. E.; Surrogate of the Diocese of Worcester.
Brittan, Charles; Vicar of Darley Abbey, Derby.
Carwardine, Henry Alexander; Vicar of Ogbourne St. Andrew's, Wilts.
Dalby, James B.; Vicar of St. Cuthbert's, Thetford, Norfolk.
Dutton, C. A.; Assistant Curate of Ringwood-cum-Norfolk.
Dawson, B. S.; Chaplain to H.B. Majesty's Legation, Madrid.
Edersheim, Dr.; Vicar of Loders, Dorset.
Elton, Alfred; Vicar of Pitminster.
Evans, David, Rector of Bala, North Wales; Vicar of Abergole, near Rhyl.
Hill, Rowley; Prebendary of Stensall in York Cathedral.
Hodgson, S.; Windsey Lecturer.
Hoskins, Charles Thomas; Rector of North Perrott.
Kirby, H. W.; Incumbent of St. Cyprian's, Lenzie, near Glasgow.
Medd, G. T.; Vicar of Whitchurch, Bucks.
Scott, John; Prebendary of Fridaythorpe in York Minster.
Tyler, Charles Henry; Rector of Rodney, Stoke.
Waghorne, Arthur C.; to the Mission of St. Pierre, Newfoundland.
Ring, B.; Chaplain of H.M. Dockyard, Pembroke.—*Guardian*.

The Church of St. Budeaux, Plymouth, was reopened by the Bishop of Exeter on Thursday week.

The new Church of St. John, West Chelsea, has been consecrated by the Bishop of London for a district adjacent to Cremorne Gardens.

The contributions to the Cornish Bishopric Fund now exceed £31,000. Amongst the latest donations was one by the Dowager Duchess of Cleveland for £2000.

The parish church of Shirburn, Oxon, which has been restored by the Earl of Macclesfield, at a cost of £3000, was reopened on All Saints' Day by the Bishop of Oxford.

The foundation-stone of a new church at Clevedon, designed by Mr. Butterfield, to be called St. John the Evangelist, was recently laid by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, on behalf of the founder, Sir A. H. Elton.

The Bishop of Lincoln concluded his charge, on Tuesday, at Newark, and it will be at once circulated in a pamphlet form, the Bishop's desire that it should not be published in fragments having been respected.

On All Saints' Day the old parish church of St. Mary, Rotherhithe (the steeple of which is a landmark to all who go by water from London Bridge to Greenwich), was reopened by the Bishop of Winchester, after having been re-seated and rearranged, under the direction of Mr. Butterfield.

Presided over by the Bishop of the diocese, a meeting was held on Wednesday, in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, for the purpose of raising funds for the endowment of the see of Lahore. Amongst the chief speakers were Lord Northbrook and the Venerable Archdeacon Johnson, Bishop Designate of Calcutta. Mr. Gathorne Hardy, M.P., sent £50.

Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple, will resume his public readings in the Greek Testament (the Second Epistle to the Corinthians) on Tuesday next, the 14th instant, at eight o'clock in the morning, in the lecture-room of the Middle Temple, and continue them for about three weeks, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, at the same home. They are open to any persons interested in the study of the Greek Testament.

Lord Shaftesbury, speaking on behalf of the Church Pastoral Aid Society at Wimborne, on Monday, pointed out the great spread of Rationalism and Sacerdotalism in the Church. He did not fear Rationalism, because it was not likely to win its way amongst the wealthy, the literary, nor the middle classes. He thought certain ordained clergymen were preaching doctrines of which Voltaire would be ashamed, and said the Church wanted five hundred Spurgeons.

At a clerical and lay conference, held on Tuesday, at Farnham, the Bishop of Winchester explained that his object in convening it was to promote unity in the Church. The existing divisions were the bane of the Church, and militated against its usefulness. The questions how best to influence religiously the working classes and to utilise the new Education Act were debated. Lord Selborne and the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper-Temple, M.P., took part in the discussion. At the second day's Conference the Bishop urged the revival of lay deacons in the Church, and recommended the formation of guilds and other parochial institutions to forward the Church's work. The subject for discussion was the constitution of such conferences, and the Bishop was requested to nominate a committee of laymen and clergy in equal numbers to prepare a constitution for future conferences.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

At Oxford, Mr. Thomas Raleigh, B.A., formerly exhibitioner of Balliol College, has been elected to a fellowship at All Souls' College. The other vacant fellowship at the same house was not filled up. Mr. Raleigh is a nephew of the Rev. Dr. Raleigh, Minister of the Congregational Church at Kensington. Sir John Francis Davis, Bart., K.C.B., late Lieutenant-Governor of Hong-Kong, upon whom the honorary degree of D.C.L. was conferred last Commemoration, has offered the sum of £1666 13s. 4d. Three per Cent Consols for the purpose of endowing a scholarship for the study of Chinese in such a manner and subject to such regulations as the University shall from time to time determine. The Rev. Bartholomew Price, M.A., Fellow of Pembroke College, has been re-elected as Curator of the Bodleian Library.

At Cambridge, the Rev. Dr. Atkinson, Master of Clare, has been elected Vice-Chancellor, in the place of Dr. Phear, whose term of office has expired. The Seatonian prize for a poem on "The Victory that Overcometh the World" has been adjudged to the Rev. H. C. G. Moule, M.A., Fellow and Senior Dean of Trinity College, who had gained the prize five times before. The plans for the new Divinity School recommended by the Syndicate have been accepted by the Senate.

Mr. Gunson (Christ's) and Mr. Ferrers (Caius) have been appointed examiners for the Le Bas prize, and Professor Clark and Professor Birkbeck have been appointed examiners for the Yorke prize for the ensuing year. The election of eight members of the council of the Senate was held on Tuesday, and the Masters of Trinity and Emmanuel, Professors Clerk-Maxwell and Cayley, Mr. Gunson (Christ's), Mr. Bonny (St. John's), Mr. Austen-Leigh (King's), and Mr. J. Hamblin Smith (Caius) were elected.

The winter session of the University of Edinburgh was opened, on Thursday week, with an address by Principal Sir Alexander Grant, in the Free Church General Assembly Hall. There was a large attendance of students and others.

The polling for the Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities has been held during this week—the candidates being Dr. Kirkwood, Liberal, and the Lord Advocate, Conservative.

A number of gentlemen in Glasgow have, says the *Glasgow News*, formed themselves into a London University Institute of Scotland. The object of the institute is to remove the hardships of Scottish teachers with respect to University graduation.

Mr. W. E. Forster, as Lord Rector of the University of Aberdeen, is to deliver his rectorial address on the 24th inst.

The University of St. Andrews was opened, last week, by an address from Principal Shairp.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Mr. Charles Barry, the president, delivered the opening address to the members of the Royal Institute of British Architects on Monday evening.

The City Commissioners of Sewers have ratified an arrangement with the Mercers' Company to set back the premises in the Poultry and Cheapside, between the Old Jewry and Ironmonger-lane, in the line upon which improvements are now being carried out, for the sum of £22,000.

Last week the total number of paupers in the metropolis was 79,073, of whom 36,476 were in workhouses and 42,597 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding period in the years 1875, 1874, and 1873, these figures show a decrease of 3962, 12,503, and 20,374 respectively.

A special exhibition of chrysanthemums, new plants, flowers, fruit, and vegetables, was held on Wednesday, in the gardens of the Royal Society, South Kensington, when collections of unusual interest were exhibited by some of the leading growers.

Several gentlemen associated with the charitable institutions of the metropolis presented the Lord Mayor with a resolution, on Saturday, thanking him for the assistance which he had rendered to the cause of charity during his year of office. It was resolved to carry forward a balance of £500 to the next year's fund.

At a meeting of the electors of the Ward of Lime-street, yesterday week—to which the Lord Mayor, who is the Alderman of the ward, went in state to preside—Mr. Walter Henry Wilkin, barrister-at-law, was unanimously chosen a representative of the constituency in the Court of Common Council, in the room of Mr. Wheatley, who had resigned.

The first meeting of the winter session of the Linnean Society was held at Burlington House on Thursday week—Professor Allman, F.R.S., the president, being in the chair. In opening the proceedings the president drew attention to the large accession to the library of the "Transactions" of many Continental societies in exchange for their own.

At the first meeting of the Musical Association this season, held on Monday evening, at the Beethoven Rooms, a paper was read by Mr. Alexander J. Ellis on the Sensitiveness of the Human Ear for Pitch and Change of Pitch in Music, detailing the results of recent experiments by himself and others, both in England and in Germany.

At the first meeting of the Farmers' Club after the usual summer and autumnal recess, which was held on Monday evening, Mr. Mechi was elected chairman for 1877. At a meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, on Tuesday, a discussion took place upon the Prisons Bill, and a resolution asking the Home Secretary to reintroduce that measure at the earliest possible opportunity was passed.

Mr. W. Carruthers, F.R.S., the keeper of the Botanical Department of the British Museum, delivered, as president, an address to the members of the Geologists' Association, yesterday week. It was almost wholly occupied with a comparison of the theory of the evolution of plants, as set forth by Haeckel, and the actual record of the rocks so far as we at present know it.

Yesterday week the Lord Mayor presided over a City meeting in aid of the rebuilding fund of the Free Hospital in Devonshire-square, the site of the old buildings having been acquired by the Metropolitan Railway. It was resolved to erect the new establishment as near the old site as possible, and every effort is to be made to raise the £25,000 required for this purpose.

On Tuesday the shipping in the Surrey Commercial Docks made a profuse display of bunting to signalise the opening of another large dock by the company, whose extensive system occupies the corner of land between the Pool and that southward bend of the river known as Limehouse Reach. The new dock, named the Canada Dock, is designed to meet the necessary requirements of the timber trade.

The first meeting for the session of the Society of Biblical Archaeology was held, on Tuesday, at its rooms, 9, Conduit-street, Regent-street. The paper of most general interest was one on the Life and Labours of the late Mr. George Smith, by his successor at the British Museum, Mr. W. St. Chad Boscawen. The Java, with six packages of Mr. George Smith's latest finds on board, has arrived in the Thames.

New board schools, with accommodation for 770 children, were opened, on Wednesday evening, in Bloomfield-road, Plumstead, under the presidency of Sir E. H. Currie. The employment of the arsenal, near which the building is placed, presented, in the course of the proceedings, an address which thanked the members of the London School Board for their efforts on behalf of popular education. Two schools in Battersea have also been opened during the past week, by Sir E. H. Currie, as reported at page 471.

Sir James Hogg, M.P., presided at the weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works yesterday week, at which considerable discussion took place upon a report from the works committee, recommending that a number of improvements be included in a bill to be promoted in Parliament next Session. The engineer's and superintending architect's report estimated the gross cost of these at £4,213,950, of which £1,461,250 would be returned; the net cost of the property, with £364,300 for roads and subways, would make the total net cost £3,117,000. A division was taken upon each recommendation, and they were all carried by large majorities.

There were 2613 births and 1403 deaths registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 145, whereas the deaths were 165 below, the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths included 21 from smallpox, 18 from measles, 35 from scarlet fever, 3 from diphtheria, 14 from whooping-cough, 22 from different forms of fever, and 31 from diarrhoea. The deaths referred to each of these seven diseases, except smallpox and diarrhoea, were considerably below the corrected average weekly numbers. The deaths from diarrhoea showed a marked increase upon the numbers in the two previous weeks, and included 27 of infants and children under five years of age. The deaths from smallpox, which had been 16, 22, and 15, in the three preceding weeks, rose again to 21 last week; four adult cases were certified as vaccinated, 11 were certified as unvaccinated, and in the remaining 6 cases the medical certificates did not furnish any information as to vaccination. The two Metropolitan Asylum District Smallpox Hospitals at Homerton and Stockwell contained 231 patients, on Saturday last, against 177 and 185 at the end of the two preceding weeks. There were 101 fresh cases admitted during the week, the highest weekly number of admissions since the beginning of the present epidemic being 62. The 333 deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs showed a further increase of 66 upon the numbers in the five preceding weeks, a result that might have been expected from the recent fogs and low temperature. In the Fulham Workhouse the death of a woman was registered whose age was stated to be 103 years.

THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION.



A FLOE-BERG AGROUND.



LIEUTENANT PARR SETTING OFF TO BRING HELP TO THE NORTHERN SLEDGE PARTY.



THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION: THE ALERT NIPPED BY THE ICE AGAINST THE SHORE OFF CAPE BEECHY.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Nov. 9.

Winter seems to have fairly set in, with the accompaniment not only of frost, but of those November fogs of which London can no longer claim the monopoly. If the present weather continues we shall soon have the fashionable world displaying on the ornamental waters of the Bois de Boulogne that dexterity in the art of skating which they have been so assiduously acquiring during the summer, at the various rinks, with which this capital now abounds.

Versailles was crowded on Friday last with deputies and their friends eager to listen to the statement which was to be made by the Duc Decazes relative to the attitude to be maintained by France on the Eastern Question, and to the opening of the debate on the Gatineau proposition. The Duke's statement had been communicated to the Cabinet Council the preceding day, and it was pretty well known in all quarters that the policy of abstention hitherto pursued would be continued. The statement read in the Chamber opened with the declaration that peace was above all things necessary to the well-being of France, and that the Government had resolved to leave all initiative in the solution of the Eastern Question to the other Powers, contenting itself with seeking, by conciliatory efforts, to establish a good understanding between them. The documents confirming this were shortly to be placed before the Chamber; but meanwhile they might rest assured that whatever complications might arise, nothing would induce the Government to abandon the policy of strict neutrality.

M. Gatineau's proposition was then taken into consideration. M. Dufaure opened the debate by declaring that, as the amnesty was rejected by the Chamber, there was plainly no need of any such measure as that proposed, and that the transfer of all future trials for offences connected with the Commune from the military to the civil courts would be most injudicious. He concluded by rejecting the measure on behalf of the Government. M. Gambetta defended the measure in a most eloquent speech, urging that it was eminently calculated to promote a feeling of confidence amongst all classes; and, after observations from several other members, the debate was adjourned. The result was, however, regarded as a foregone conclusion. On the following day the first and second articles of the bill, as modified by the Commission to which they had been referred, providing for the immediate cessation of all prosecutions for offences in connection with the Commune, except murder, theft, and arson, were passed by 353 votes to 149. The third article, decreeing the transfer of all trials from the military to the civil courts, occasioned, however, a fiercer battle; and some sharp personalities, arising out of attacks on military courts in general, made by members of the Extreme Left, were exchanged. Finally, the third article was passed by the narrow majority of two; whilst the fourth, permitting people who when summoned to appear for trial had failed to do so, and had been condemned in their absence to be re-tried before superior courts, was rejected by a majority of 42. On Monday and Tuesday the Marine Budget was discussed, and the Chamber was adjourned till to-day.

The Senate met on Monday and Tuesday, and these days were entirely taken up with the Army Administration Reform Bill, the first four articles of which were passed.

The funeral, last week, of Mlle. Delescluze, the sister of the Communist leader, who fell during the entry of the Versailles troops into Paris, served for the occasion of a political manifestation in the Cemetery of St. Ouen. MM. Gambetta, Raspail, Targé, Clemenceau, and many other prominent Republican leaders, were present; and, after an oration from M. St. Quentin and the reading of the last letter from Delescluze to his sister, written just before his death, the assembly separated with cries of "Vive l'Amnistie!" Although a vast number of people flocked to the different cemeteries on All Souls' Day and notably to that of Père la Chaise, no disorderly manifestations took place over the tombs of the departed Communists. On Sunday a decree was issued pardoning fifty of the survivors, amongst whom General Bergeret is, it seems, no longer to be counted.

A funeral which also drew together a large concourse of people, though of a different class, was that of M. Perraud, the eminent sculptor, whose remains were followed to the Mont Parnasse Cemetery, on Sunday, by a number of leading artists and men of letters.

A mission-home for deserted and orphan British children was opened, last Thursday, in the house built on the Boulevard Bineau for an English hospital. Most of the English clergy in Paris took part in the ceremony.

Marseilles is earning an unenviable notoriety in criminal matters. Lately immense quantities of forged bank-notes were found there, and a recent police raid has revealed the existence of several extensive manufactories of false money.

The Paris police, on their part, are turning their attention to the English and foreign bookmakers, several of whom were fined and imprisoned by the Tribunal of Correctional Police on Monday. They are lamenting their inability to secure a gang established in London, whose devices for swindling French subjects have been exposed at length in an official note, and whose existence is denounced as another reproach against perfidious Albion by the Anglophobic journals.

The sentence of 4000*fr.* fine against the manager of the *Droits de l'Homme* has been confirmed, but the term of imprisonment modified from two years to one year. A fresh summons has since been issued against the culprit for another press offence. The real owner of the paper had need be immensely rich to stand such a continual drain on his purse.

General Leflo, the French Ambassador to Russia, left for St. Petersburg at the close of last week.

SPAIN.

The Cortes were reopened on Monday. In the Senate the Government submitted a bill restoring the constitution guarantees throughout Spain, except in the Basque provinces, until further consideration of the subject. It also introduced a bill of indemnity for the extra legal measures taken by the Cabinet subsequent to 1875. On Tuesday the Congress began the discussion of the organic bills.

The Cuban insurgents, according to an official despatch from Havannah published in Madrid, have sustained a severe defeat, in which they lost many killed and wounded.

ITALY.

Maria Victoria, Duchess of Aosta, the wife of Prince Amadeus, for a short time King of Spain, died on Wednesday morning, in the arms of her husband, aged twenty-nine.

The general elections show a large majority in favour of the Government.

The long illness from which the famous Papal statesman, Cardinal Antonelli, had suffered ended in his death on Monday morning. He was born in April, 1806, the son of humble parents in the Campagna, and entered the Church at an early age. Soon attracting the notice of Pope Gregory XVI., he was appointed to several responsible offices under that Pontiff. On the accession of Pius IX. his good fortune continued. He

was made a Cardinal, and became the principal Minister of the Papal Government. This position he may be said to have held until the overthrow of the temporal power, in 1870. After that event his influence with the Pope declined, and he ceased to play a conspicuous part in public affairs. He is reported to have bequeathed his collection of precious stones and objects of art to the Vatican.

Monsignor Vannutelli has been appointed Secretary of State ad interim in his room.

BELGIUM.

The National Committee intrusted with the execution of the King's project for the civilisation of Central Africa met, on Monday, at the Royal Palace. The King made a speech, which was warmly applauded. The Count of Flanders was appointed president of the committee.

GERMANY.

The Emperor William took his first drive after his recent indisposition in a closed carriage on Sunday last. Lieutenant-General von Werder, of the German army, has returned to Berlin from Livadia, and has been received by the Emperor. Edhem Pasha, the new Turkish Ambassador at Berlin, was, on Monday afternoon, received in audience by the Emperor, in the presence of Herr von Bülow, Under-Secretary of State, and presented his credentials.

Herr von Forckenbeck was, on Thursday week, elected President of the German Parliament. Herr von Stauffenberg was elected First Vice-President. Both accepted the election. Upon the House proceeding to the election of the Second Vice-President, Dr. Loewe was returned. Dr. Loewe declined to accept the dignity, whereupon Dr. Haenel was returned. The latter having likewise refused the post, the House adjourned until the following day, when Dr. Benda was elected Second Vice-President. The Budget was read for the first time. Herr von Hofmann, President of the Imperial Chancellery, made a statement regarding the expected financial result of the present year, which, it is estimated, will show a surplus of 8,000,000 marks. Replying to observations made by Dr. Joerg, in Monday's sitting, Herr von Bülow said that it was impossible at the present moment to give information upon pending questions. The policy of Germany, he declared, will ever be pacific.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

Baron Hofmann, Austrian Minister of Finance, stated, in a sitting of the Tax Reform Committee, that he was authorised by the Emperor to declare that no demand for exemption from taxation would be made in regard to the private property of the Emperor and the members of the Imperial family.

Several of the speakers in the debate, which began last Saturday in the Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath, on the reply of the Government to the interpellations on the Eastern Question, advocated the maintenance of the Ottoman Empire; and Herr von Plener called on Austria to bear in mind that, while the fall of Turkey is inevitable, she (Austria) cannot tolerate the formation of fresh States on her frontier which would compromise her own security. The debate was brought to a close, on Tuesday, by speeches from Herr Greuter and Dr. Herbst. The former pointed out that, if Austria were to annex Bosnia and the Herzegovina, she would only be entering upon her lawful inheritance. Dr. Herbst opposed the principle of Austria going hand in hand with Russia, and declared that he considered the amelioration of the lot of the Slavonic Christians in Turkey to be the mission of Austria, whose efforts should be devoted to the maintenance of peace.

In a sitting of the Budget Committee, at Pesth, the Hungarian Minister of Finance drew attention to the improved position of the Budget since the last few years, and expressed a hope that in 1880 a balance of expenditure and revenue would be arrived at.

ROUMANIA.

Prince Charles opened, on Thursday week, the extraordinary Session of the Roumanian Chambers, and in the course of his address stated that the relations of his Government with foreign Powers are most friendly, and that it continued to receive from all the guaranteeing Powers encouragement to maintain the policy of neutrality observed by it since the commencement of the war.

The Minister for War has, in the Chamber of Deputies, brought forward a bill granting a credit of 4,000,000*fr.* for completing the equipment of the army, and a smaller sum for the cost of calling out the reserves last month.

RUSSIA.

An Imperial ukase has been published fixing Dec. 13 for the calling out of all young men liable to military service this year. This decree does not apply to Siberia, nor to the Governments of Archangel and Orenburg.

The trial of Dr. Stroussberg and his accomplices on charges of fraud in connection with the Moscow Commercial Discount Bank has terminated in a verdict of guilty against the principal defendant and M. Handen and M. Poljansky, extenuating circumstances being allowed in the case of the last named. A verdict of guilty has also been returned against M. Schumacher, one of the members of the board of directors.

EGYPT.

Mr. Goschen's financial plan is said to have been favourably received in Alexandria and Cairo. It is reported that some opposition will be made by the Minister of Finance, but the native party, which exercises the greatest influence in the country, is favourable.

The Khedive has accepted the resignation of Signor Scialoja as President of the International Financial Commission, and Mr. G. W. Romaine has been appointed President of the Supreme Council of the Treasury.

GREECE.

The King and Queen arrived at Athens on Tuesday. They entered the town amid enthusiastic cheers from immense crowds of spectators assembled in the streets. His Majesty addressed the people from the balcony of the palace. M. Zaimis delivered an address welcoming his Majesty on his return and expressing the loyal feelings of the inhabitants.

AMERICA.

Mr. Tilden, the Democratic candidate for the Presidency of the United States, has been returned.

The return of the agricultural department for October estimates the total wheat crop at 245,000,000 bushels, showing a reduction of one sixth compared with 1875. There is, however, an improvement in quality.

Arrangements have (says a *Times* telegram) been matured for continuing after Nov. 10 the Philadelphia Exhibition in the main industrial building by a company chartered under the laws of Pennsylvania, including the chief managers of the present exhibition. A museum is also to be opened in the Memorial Building, known as the Pennsylvania Museum. The chief part of the British art educational collection from South Kensington at Philadelphia has been presented by the Duke of Richmond partly to the Pennsylvania Museum and partly to the new Educational Museum at Washington. The British Ordnance Survey maps will also be presented; while arrangements are being made for the loan to the Pennsylvania Museum of the British East Indian display now in the exhibition for one year.

The American correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that, on Monday week, 1200 hostile Sioux attacked the village of the Shoshones, consisting of 500 lodges, friendly to the Whites, at Pointed Rock, Wyoming. Almost all the Shoshones were massacred. The same correspondent reports that at Artesia, in Mississippi, on Wednesday, a political meeting ended in a fight, and six negroes were wounded, one mortally. Troops promptly appearing prevented further disturbances. A riot occurred on Wednesday evening at Charlestown, between the whites and the negroes, in which two persons were killed. The Federal troops dispersed the rioters.

INDIA.

A telegram from Calcutta, sent on Thursday, states that the district of Backergunge was ravaged by a cyclone on the 7th inst., and that thousands of native houses were destroyed. The town of Dowlutkhan was submerged by a storm-wave, which swept away all the buildings of the place. Five thousand persons are believed to have perished. The Government has sent relief to the sufferers.

The weekly telegram of the *Times* from Calcutta says that the reports from Bombay respecting the crops are somewhat more reassuring. It is impossible yet to estimate accurately the probable extent of distress, but it seems likely that actual famine will not be very widely spread. Roads and irrigation works will be undertaken in the distressed districts. The Bombay Government (the correspondent says) seems acting with well-directed energy. In Madras there will be scarcity in several districts, but affairs are better than in Bombay.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

The Chinese have retaken the fortress of Menasse, so long occupied by the troops of Yakoob Bey, of Kashgar.

A telegram, dated the 6th inst., received at Paris from Japan, announces that the insurgents were attacked on that day by a Japanese naval and military force, and were beaten and put to flight.

AUSTRALIA.

Mr. F. S. Dutton, C.M.G., the Agent-General for South Australia, has received the following telegram from the Government of Adelaide, dated Oct. 25:—"Fine rains have fallen, and the harvest prospects are much improved."

Several papers state that Captain George S. Nares, F.R.S., Commander of the Arctic Expedition, has been offered the honour of K.C.B.

According to the latest advices from Cape Coast Castle, the blockade of Whydah was still continued, but nothing of importance had occurred. Trade on the West Coast was reported to be generally very bad.

The war in the Transvaal is to be carried on, and the Legislature has resolved to levy new taxes. The Kaffirs attacked President Burger's Fort on Sept. 30, taking Lieutenant Knass prisoner.

The following vessels sailed to New Zealand with emigrants during October:—From London, the Leicester, with 340 souls; from Plymouth, the Waipa, with 282 souls; from Glasgow, the Marlborough, with 239 souls. The understated vessels, which also carried emigrants for the Government of New Zealand, have arrived out safely—viz., the Invercargill and Timaru, from Glasgow; and the Waimea, from London.

The Marquis of Salisbury will be the Queen's Special Ambassador in the negotiations at the contemplated Conference on the Eastern Question. Sir Henry Elliott will be associated with him as one of the English Plenipotentiaries. Mr. Philip W. Currie, of the Foreign Office, has been appointed Secretary to the Embassy. Mr. H. A. Lee and Mr. James Hozier, of the Foreign Office, will be attached to it.

Recent accounts from Bombay afford us some idea of the nature of the duties our police force in India are sometimes called upon to perform. For years a desperate gang of marauders, under the leadership of Honia Kenglia, has infested the districts of Poonah, Ahmednagar, Nasick, and Tanna, to the terror of their inhabitants, carrying on their depredations, generally accompanied by cruelty, on a grand scale, and in the most barefaced manner. Honia's influence over the villagers, and the difficult nature of the Ghat country, have enabled him to elude the vigilance of the police and of the several expeditions which have been sent out for his capture. Last summer it was determined to make another attempt to relieve the country of the presence of this villain and his followers. Captain Henry Daniell, the superintendent of police for the Ahmednagar district, an officer of proved energy and activity, and possessing, moreover, a great power of organisation, was selected for this special duty. With a force of one hundred picked men from the Poonah, Nasick, Nuggur, and Jowar districts he took the field, and so good was his information, and so quickly did he follow it up, that in less than two months he succeeded in capturing the ringleader Honia, with three others, and brought them in without casualty. The service is one of considerable difficulty, and of no ordinary danger, for these desperate fellows knew they had to fight with halters round their necks. The wild country, which at all times is difficult to traverse, was rendered almost impassable by the rains, thus adding to the hardships and taxing the endurance and energy of every man of the party. The *Homesward Mail*, from which the above account is derived, gives other instances of Captain Daniell's daring and skill.

The annual municipal elections were held throughout Scotland on Tuesday, and generally passed off very quietly.

Mr. James Farquharson, of Auchinblae, has bought the estate of Glenfarquhar for £66,500 sterling.

The sum of £100 has been voted from the Royal Literary Fund to the widow of the late Mr. George Smith.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chief Secretary for Ireland, has been promoted to a seat in the Cabinet.

The West Princes-street Gardens, at Edinburgh, were opened for the first time to the public last Saturday, under the powers recently acquired by the Town Council.

The fine and remainder of the sentence passed on Mr. John de Morgan, at the last Kent Quarter Sessions, for complicity in the Plumstead-common riots, have been remitted, and De Morgan was liberated on Sunday.

Mr. J. A. Froude opened the winter session at the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, yesterday week, with an address on the uses of a landed gentry. In replying to the toast of his health at a dinner given to him by the directors of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, on Monday, Mr. Froude referred to culture as a part of education.

Mr. Grant-Duff, M.P., in distributing prizes to the successful students at the Liverpool Institute, remarked upon what he described as the waste of freshness of mind and youthful strength in useless branches of learning, and specified as the chief source of errors in the education of the intellect that it was founded upon pure accident, and upon no principle whatever. He considered that the present system must be carefully revised.

THE MAGAZINES.

The author of "Lorna Doone" has made an excellent start with his new fiction, "Erema," in the *Cornhill Magazine*. He has secured variety and picturesqueness of scenery by placing the action in the Far West, and has put his narrative into the mouth of an engaging heroine as we have made acquaintance with for a long time. The plot promises to be highly interesting, and the reader's suspense is very ably kept up. "Across the Peat-Fields" is not remarkably interesting as a story, but abounds with dainty and refined touches of character. "Turkish Ways and Turkish Women" has many pretty traits and anecdotes of the denizens of the harem. An interesting essay on dreams contains many curious instances of the symbolism by which the sleeper's physical sensations are reproduced to his perceptions as visionary scenes, sometimes of the most elaborate character.

Macmillan continues "Madcap Violet," which is growing too tragic for our taste; the tragedy not arising from the situation, but having the effect of mere caprice. It would also have been too tragic for the late Rev. Patrick Brontë, who, as we learn from the concluding number of Mr. Wemyss Reid's interesting series of articles on Currer Bell, compelled his daughter to modify the dismal conclusion she had designed for "Villette." We think he was right; it is only to be regretted that his tenderness did not extend to his daughter herself, whom he seems to have treated very harshly in the matter of her engagement to his curate. Her own sensitiveness to criticism on the book was almost equally unreasonable. Mr. Pater's essay on the romantic spirit in literature is slight, but sound. Mr. C. H. Hawkins reports on the Wagner festival at Bayreuth, and sums up the prospects of Wagner's peculiar form of opera with great impartiality. His conclusion is that it will not live by itself, but that it will form an element in all future operatic compositions. Mr. Jack writes hopefully of the prospects of national education, and considers that the percentage of attendance is not always in proportion to the strictness of compulsion.

The present instalment of Mr. A. Wilson's tour in Kattiawar, now publishing in *Blackwood*, is one of peculiar interest. The writer describes the stupendous Jain temples in that region, and relates how, by a stratagem which we cannot consider justifiable, he obtained access to the "perspiring image," never before seen by a European. Such conduct is calculated to throw difficulties in the way of future explorers. The most interesting chapter of "The Woman-Hater" is a vigorous denunciation of the shabby behaviour of the Edinburgh medical professors to their female students. Swift is effectively vindicated against the sweeping imputations of Lord Macaulay. A review of Mr. Martin's "Life of the Prince Consort" is as monotonous as the book in its total deficiency in the contrasts of light and shade.

Fraser has two papers of considerable interest, indirectly espousing the cause of Turkey in the present contentions. One is an historical sketch of Bulgaria, by Dr. Kilian, of Vienna, insisting on the malevolence of the Greeks towards the Bulgarians, and plainly hinting that, rather than run the risk of being absorbed into an Hellenic State, the latter had better make up their minds to remain under Turkish rule for the present. Mr. Blyden, a West African gentleman who has had experience of the beneficial effect of Mohammedan influence in his own country, rebukes Major Osborn's delineation of Islam as a persecuting creed in his recent history of the Saracens. He makes out a fair case in so far as the letter of the Koran is concerned; but so might a fair case for the toleration of the Church of Rome be made out by a reasoner who should persist in disregarding everything but the bare letter of the New Testament. The author of "The Astronomy of the Future" infers from the disuse of the term "centrifugal force" that physicists are coming to regard the sun as a centre of electric or magnetic force. Mixed up with this not wholly unreasonable idea are some rather wild speculations about the possibility of the sun's being, after all, a cold body. "Heine's Life and Work" is a sound and painstaking essay, injured by the degree to which it is based upon Mr. Stigand's ponderous and unsatisfactory volumes on the same subject.

Professor Tyndall's paper on "Fermentation," in the *Fortnightly Review*, is a reprint of a popular lecture, and displays his usual power of setting a scientific subject in the clearest light. It is principally an exposition of the theory of Pasteur on the dissemination of disease by germs. Mr. Bagehot's article on Lord Althorp shows the difficulty a man of refined intellect may find in understanding one of plain, simple sense. Mr. Colvin repeats in choice language what everybody has been saying about "Daniel Deronda." Mr. Ralph Earle's essay on the Eastern Question is remarkable for its advocacy of the partition of Turkey between Russia and Austria. Mr. Morley's excellent address on popular culture has already been sufficiently discussed by the press.

The same observation applies to Mr. Gladstone's polemic, in the *Contemporary Review*, against the *Pall-Mall Gazette*, with reference to the atrocities imputed to the Russians in Turkestan. To our apprehension, these severities, assuming them to be proved to the full, are not nearly so bad as the recent proscription of the Ruthenian nationality and language, which no one thinks of denying. Mr. Matthew Arnold's "psychological parallel" is between St. Paul and a divine of the Church of England named Smith. The mere announcement of the subject sufficiently characterises the lofty intellectual standpoint affected by the writer, whose fate it is, nevertheless, to be criticised in the same number from a still more lofty point of view by another Oxford man. The best of it is that Dr. Appleton's mild and patronising reproof of Mr. Arnold is, in style and manner, a plagiarism from Mr. Arnold himself. A spirited prose rendering of the old Anglo-Saxon poem on the battle of Brunanburgh, by the son of the Poet Laureate, well repays the attention which so distinguished a name invites. The value of Mr. Malcolm Maccoll's observations on the Christian subjects of the Porte is impaired by the strong theological prepossessions under which he obviously labours.

Mr. Proctor's acquaintance with astrology, if we may judge from his paper on the subject in *Belgravia*, is too superficial to carry him much beyond generalities and commonplace. Another essay, however, is promised, for which his knowledge may possibly be reserved. "The New Republic" continues to be lively and pointed, and its parodies of conspicuous public instructors are frequently very happy. It is, nevertheless, carrying satire much too far to insinuate a charge of impurity against the advocates of a particular class of opinions. "An Aunt by Marriage" is a pretty little story.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* has another of Mr. Julian Hawthorne's stories of the supernatural, striking at first sight, but so artificial as to produce the effect of a mere piece of mechanism when once the trick is found out. Mr. Picciotto's paper on "Deronda the Jew" at last affords an indication of the significance of the ideas impersonated in Deronda and Mordecai being recognised by the race which they principally concern. The protest against the delineation of an equally characteristic and more familiar phase of Jewish life in

Dickens's Fagin is, however, a somewhat ludicrous instance of national vanity. Mr. Hepworth Dixon's account of the Jerusalem excavations contains much interesting matter.

The *Month* continues its very interesting biography of Columbus; describes the "Arab Christian villages" of Algeria, a good work tainted with the spirit of proselytism; and revives the recollection of the ancient efforts of the Popes against the Ottomans, somewhat unseasonably, it may seem, when the present attitude of the Court of Rome in the Eastern Question is taken into account.

Continuations of General Howard's history of the Atlanta campaign and of Fanny Kemble's autobiography, excellent papers on early Provençal poetry and Giordano Bruno, and Mr. Warner's account of his interview with the Armenian Patriarch, are among the chief attractions of the *Atlantic Monthly*. In *Tinsley* we note very fair papers on the performance of "Peril" at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and on "Darwinism," not to mention the lament of an unfortunate Turkish lover "Who wails in his despair, As the tiger wails at night." *London Society* has a picturesque description of the environs of the Lake of Geneva, and an amusingly farcical description of the misadventures of a retired Indian Major on his country visits. The Christmas Number of *London Society*, containing much readable matter, is issued.

We have also received the Argonaut, Good Words, Chambers's Miscellany, the Monthly Packet, the Victoria Magazine, Cassell's Magazine, Golden Hours, and the Charing-cross Magazine.

MUSIC.

THE CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.

Another specialty occurred at the Lyceum on Thursday week in the production of an English version of Beethoven's "Fidelio," as a dialogue opera, in accordance with its shape in the original German. The work is thus heard to much greater advantage, as to dramatic effect, than when given, as in the Italian performance, with interpolated recitatives; and its great success on the occasion now referred to served to confirm the previous impression that Mr. Carl Rosa's scheme for the production in London of foreign operas in English adaptations, and of works of native composers, will become a permanent institution.

The character of Leonora (the devoted wife who, disguised as Fidelio, seeks out her husband, Florestan, in his dungeon, and saves him from assassination) was filled by Mdlle. Ostava Torriani, who sang the difficult music of the part with an alternation of pathos and declamatory power that served to enhance the already high position she had attained here. The great scene in the first act, the "Invocation to Hope," was finely rendered, and produced a very marked impression, which was even increased by the fine singing of Mdlle. Torriani in the second act, in which the demands on the vocal powers of the representative of Leonora are more continuous than in the earlier portion of the opera. Here the singer achieved a series of successes, in the sublime duet with Rocco, the gaoler, while helping him to dig the grave intended for her husband (Fidelio having procured admission to the fortress as an assistant to Rocco), in the beautiful following trio for these two and the doomed prisoner; the wondrously dramatic quartet in which Leonora foils Don Pizarro in his attempt to murder her husband, and in the exulting duet for the heroine and the liberated prisoner. A triple recall after this latter movement testified to the impression made.

Miss Julia Gaylord contributed much to the general efficiency of the performance by her representation of Marcellina, whose air, in the first act, she gave with unaffected naïveté; having been also highly efficient in the several concerted pieces in which the character is concerned.

Another success of the evening was that of Mr. Packard as Florestan, whose difficult scena at the opening of the second act was given with excellent effect. Mr. Aynsley Cook was a satisfactory Rocco, Mr. Charles Lyall's Jacquinio was as good as heretofore in Italian performances of the opera, Mr. Ludwig's appearance and make-up as Don Pizarro were more impressive than was his delivery of the dialogue and music of the part; and Mr. A. Stevens gave the incidental passages assigned to the Minister of State, in the last finale, carefully and correctly.

The greatest of all the four overtures which Beethoven composed for "Fidelio"—the third, in C major—preceded the opera, and was so finely played that it had to be repeated.

The next novelty will be Mr. F. H. Cowen's "Pauline," the book of which is founded on "The Lady of Lyons." This opera was composed specially for Mr. Carl Rosa's company.

We could only briefly refer last week to the opening of the sixth season of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, with a performance of "Israel in Egypt." This took place on Thursday week, and afforded fresh proof of the fine singing of the choir in Handel's greatest choral work, the double and single choruses of which were most impressively rendered by the fine choir directed by Mr. Barnby. The series of movements describing the sufferings of the Israelites in their bondage and the plagues with which the Egyptians were visited, the choruses, "The Hailstone Chorus," "The Horse and his Rider," and "The Lord shall reign," were among the prominent effects of the evening. The duet for two solo basses, "The Lord is a Man of War," was given by all the male voices of the choir (as in previous performances of the oratorio), and produced so great an impression that it had to be repeated. Mr. Sims Reeves was unable to appear, and the solo set down for him, "The enemy said," was finely sung by Mr. Cummings (in addition to the pieces assigned him), and was encored. The other soloists were Madame Sinico, Miss K. Poyntz, and Miss Julia Elton, all of whom displayed their well-known efficiency. The oratorio was given with the additional accompaniments written by Professor G. A. Macfarren. There was a fine band, and the great organ was used by Dr. Stainer with his usual skill and judgment.

The next oratorio performance at the Royal Albert Hall will consist of "St. Paul," on Thursday, conducted by Mr. William Carter; and on Thursday week Rossini's "Stabat Mater" and Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" will be given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, directed by Mr. Barnby.

Madame Arabella Goddard appeared at the Crystal Palace Concert of last Saturday afternoon, and met with an enthusiastic reception. The eminent pianist played, with brilliant effect, Mendelssohn's first concerto, in G minor. The selection included an overture to "Romeo and Juliet," by the Russian composer, Tschaikowsky, in which there is much effective and characteristic writing, mixed up with occasional eccentricities. The other orchestral pieces were the overture to Professor G. A. Macfarren's oratorio "The Resurrection" (produced at the recent Birmingham Festival) and Mozart's Jupiter symphony, both magnificently played. Miss Anna Williams and Signor Bettini were the vocalists.

The Monday Popular Concerts entered on their nineteenth season this week, with an interesting, although not novel, programme, the principal feature in which was Schubert's ottet for string and wind instruments, which was given for the

fourteenth time at these concerts. It was admirably led by Herr Straus, as principal violinist; the other instruments having been in the skilled hands of Mr. L. Ries (second violin), Mr. Zerbini (viola), Signor Piatti (violinello), Mr. Reynolds (double bass), Mr. Lazarus (clarinet), Mr. Wendtland (horn), and Mr. Winterbottom (bassoon). The four first-named artists also played Haydn's quartet in C (No. 3 of op. 64), and Signor Piatti was associated with Miss Agnes Zimmermann in Beethoven's sonata for pianoforte and violinello in G minor; the lady having previously played, as her solo piece, the first of Mendelssohn's six preludes and fugues, op. 35. Three German lieder, by Schubert, Franz, and Lassen, were expressively sung by Mdlle. Redeker, who was encored in the last. Mr. Zerbini was the accompanist. The first of the afternoon performances takes place to-day (Saturday), when Herr Straus will again be the leading violinist, and Miss Zimmermann the solo pianist.

Mr. Sydney Smith gave the first of two pianoforte recitals, at Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday, when his programme included several brilliant new pieces of his own composition performed by himself, besides selections from classical masters.

The Covent-Garden Promenade Concerts are approaching the end of their season. The last Wagner night was given on Wednesday, a grand extra night being announced for Monday week, for the benefit of Messrs. Gatti.

THEATRES.

COURT.

A new play, by Mr. Charles F. Coghlan, has been produced here, which exemplifies the modern tendency in things dramatic to liberate compositions of the kind from all rules of art, and to try back to that state of happy freedom which may be supposed to have preceded the era of convention. Mr. Coghlan has already made an attempt in that direction, but in his present venture he has become even more daring. His new play claims consideration as a comedy in three acts, and is called "Brothers." The action turns upon the changeable disposition of the heroine, Kate Hungerford. The lady is a daughter of a regiment, and has been roughly brought up by two soldiers. It may readily, therefore, be imagined that she is somewhat wayward in her disposition and governed by impulses, which render certain parts of her conduct inconsistent with other parts, and leave the dramatist at liberty to assign any course of action to her that may be most convenient to himself in the working out of his slender and much attenuated plot. "Most women have no characters at all," says a poet who knew; and Kate's indecision of motive brings her most palpably within the satirist's category. Of course, the difficulty of acting it is proportionate to the degree of uncertainty in the delineation; but Miss Ellen Terry, nevertheless, presents a charming portrait of this variable individual, and is equally good in every changing phase. The other characters of the comedy cannot fail to be seriously influenced by the mutable idiosyncrasies of the central one, and are similarly unsteady in their movements and aims; but they have good representatives in Mr. Hare, Mr. G. Anson, Mr. H. B. Conway, Mr. Charles Kelly, Mr. Deane, Miss Hollingshead, Mrs. Gaston Murray, and others. The play was greatly indebted for its success to their efforts.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.

On Monday Mr. and Mrs. German Reed introduced another new piece, by Mr. F. C. Burnand, to that portion of the public which patronises the drawing-room entertainment and habitually visits St. George's Hall. It is entitled "Matched and Mated," and the music, which is most appropriate, has been supplied by Mr. German Reed. It would be impossible to describe the thread of narrative which supports the dialogue of this little drama, for so slender is it as to be almost intangible. The characters, however, stand out distinctly enough, and are skillfully drawn. The colouring is left to the artistes employed, who, one and all, make the most of their rôles, and add by the grace of person and action to their fascination. Miss Fanny Holland, Miss Leonora Braham, Mr. Alfred E. Bishop, Mr. Corney Grain, Mrs. German Reed, and Mr. Alfred Reed all aid alike in the embodiment of the author's ideas, and finally bring down the curtain on a decided success. Some of Mr. Reed's music is more ambitious than usual, particularly a spirited "Riding Duet," with which the drama commences. The entertainment includes a new piano sketch by Mr. Corney Grain, in which that gentleman represents the humours of "Our Table d'Hôte." Those who are versant with Mr. Grain's style of execution will readily imagine the amusement to be derived from his histrionic and musical talents in an entertainment so well calculated to display both in the most salient manner.

Sir Sydney Waterlow, M.P., has bought some land at Maidstone, on which he intends erecting eighty dwellings for the working classes.

The committee of the Life-Ship Fund, not having received from the public the assistance they had anticipated to enable them to equip the Peronelle life-ship with adequate steam power, have handed over the vessel to the Royal National Life-Boat Institution.

A bazaar, in aid of the funds for building a detached infirmary in connection with the Earlswood Asylum for Idiots has been held this week at Brighton. The stallholders included the Mayoress of Brighton, the Countess of Munster, and Lady Cardross. The arrangements, superintended by Mr. William Nicholas, the secretary of the institution, were of the most satisfactory description.

Persons fond of oysters—and who is not?—will be glad to learn, on the authority of Mr. Frank Buckland, that the London market is about to be supplied with native oysters of an agreeable flavour, from which it has hitherto been debarred. He writes in *Land and Water* as follows:—"The green-bearded oysters native to the river Roach (not far from Southend, Essex), are about to be introduced into the London market. For over a hundred years this kind of British oyster has been shipped via Ostend to the Paris and Continental markets, where, under the name of 'Les huîtres verts d'Ostende,' they have been and are considered a great delicacy. The reason why oyster-eaters in England have not hitherto availed themselves of these home-bred oysters is that their beads (i.e., breathing gills) are, in the winter months, more or less tinged with a green pigment. This peculiar green is imparted to them by the sporules of the seaweed called 'crown-silk,' which grows abundantly in the Roach river. Dr. Letheby's analysis has pronounced this pigment to be purely vegetable, without the slightest trace of copper or other mineral. I consider that this vegetable pigment imparts a peculiar taste and agreeable flavour to the meat of these plump little oysters. For many years I have been trying to persuade Messrs. J. and F. Wiseman, oyster merchants, of Paglesham, Rochford, Essex, to send their natives to the home markets. The present scarcity of oysters has now induced them to supply the English rather than the French markets. The shells are thin and porcelain-like, and the proportion of meat to shell in my catalogue of oysters is one fifth."



THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION: A SLEDGE PARTY CAMPING FOR THE NIGHT

FINE ARTS.

THE FRENCH GALLERY.

The winter exhibition at this gallery in Pall-mall differs from the spring display in presenting not Continental pictures exclusively, but British and foreign works in approximately equal proportions. The standard of the foreign works is naturally not so high as in the collection provided for the principal "season" of the year, nor are the British works for the same reason of the very rarest excellence; an opportunity, therefore, for comparison on tolerably equal terms is afforded. The comparison, however, cannot of course be widely comprehensive, either as regards numbers or variety. Few experiments in artistic principles of lofty or uncommon aim are to be found here; the whole collection has, indeed, been selected with especial reference to English taste, yet within its limits, and, we may add, because of those limits, comparison is both easy and instructive. In technical accomplishment, then, we still see the foreign artist excelling; but our own painters are making progress in this direction; and, if not here in marked degree, yet generally they evince poetical feeling and freshness of perception at least as frequently as their Continental rivals. The comparison is more readily sustainable because an unusually large proportion of the pictures are from the Munich school; and, to whatever extent we sympathise with the natural and homely character of the German painters, it must be admitted that they are still far behind the French in skill and spirit of execution, in originality of impression, in freshness of feeling, in colour and chiaroscuro. Very few of the German painters, either of the Munich or Dusseldorf schools can yet divest themselves of the idea of shadow as something of a sooty, smoky, or blackish-brown opacity. The rich glow of Venetian shadow tone, and the mysterious light in shade of Rembrandt and the Northerners, are unknown to these painters. No school was ever so devoid of all sense of transparency.

These remarks will be found to apply to several German pictures here. It so happens, however, they have little bearing on one of the most important works—the illustration of the trial scene in the "Merchant of Venice," which is an outcome, we understand, of the Munich school, though by a distinguished Polish painter, M. Gieryski. Although by no means clear or pure in its depth, the leading characteristic of this picture is a low, sombre tone of Venetian colouring recalling Jan Bellini. The mise-en-scène has also ample metaphorical *coulour locale*. On the left of the spectator is the audience court, of rich Byzantine architecture, on which débouches from the right a long corridor in the same ornate style, the pillars being of inlaid marbles with grotesquely-carved capitals. The Doge, surrounded by his red-robed councillors, sits in the court. Shylock kneels before him, preferring his claim for the pound of flesh. Antonio, Portia, and the other *dramatis personæ* stand about, and spectators are grouped along the corridor. The faces are characteristic, and, like the sumptuous dresses and architecture, are evidently studied from Venetian pictures or remains. But the work is deficient in dramatic concentration; and, to a great extent, this is due to the diffusion of the composition, which, as may be inferred from what we have said, takes an almost frieze-like form, or as though intended only for the decoration of a panel of given dimensions, long and narrow; the scattered effect being further increased by grouping the spectators in the interspaces of the columns which divide the design vertically. We can have nothing but praise for any recent work by Knaus; in his later pictures he has avoided that blackness of his compatriots in which he also formerly indulged. The example here is excellent though small; but we have seen the same picture, or at least the same subject, here before. It is called "On Mischief Bent," and represents an urchin watchfully looking out of the picture at the spectator, with an infinity of sly, boyish roguery in his vivacious black eyes. By Herr Spring there is a good sample of the ordinary run of domestic *genre* which finds favour with the homely Germans, and is also calculated to please unsophisticated English tastes. The scene is the interior of a little girls' industrial school, where the dame is giving a lesson in knitting. Very naturally rendered are the attitudes and expressions of the children, as they give various degrees of attention to their knitting, playing, or prattling—the direction of their attention being apt to be regulated by the chances of observation to which they are exposed from the old schoolmistress. On a larger scale and in a fresher key of colouring is a picture of two girls at embroidery, by H. Anker. Three works by L. Munthe are welcome as representing one of the finest painters of wintry twilight, moonlight, and snow scenes. Van der Neer had a vastly superior sense of composition; he was incomparably more varied in gradation; but neither the old Dutch nor any other master has surpassed Munthe in the truth of the pitch and the harmony of his tones. Good specimens of his rare though limited excellence are "Moonrise," which relies entirely for effect on simple breadth of tone, and "Winter," with its row of village cottages darkling against a sunset sky, the warm flush of which tells strongly against the sad leaden hues of the snow on the roofs and in the foreground ruts. A powerful and artistic, if rather coarse, picture is Gegerfelt's "Hamlet in Brittany—Twilight." By Zugel there is a capital picture of a chiffonier's dog guarding his master's cart-load of refuse interspersed with bones from others dogs. By T. Weber, who, however, can scarcely be classed as German except by birth, there is a picture, in his familiar manner, of the "Old Pier at Flushing," with a rainy sky and boats standing in under a fresh breeze. There are two effective sea-pieces by Mesdag; and Bolonachi's "Ship on Fire" is full of impressiveness and terror.

Led by a certain affinity, we may turn to the English pictures before reviewing the remaining foreign works. Mr. F. Goodall takes prominent places with two scriptural subjects, studied, as usual, from materials gathered in the East. One is a reduced version of his Royal Academy picture, "The Holy Mother." Except in size, this seems to be an exact replica, and again therefore we must repeat the general objection taken, in regard to the larger picture, to the extremely pale colour of the flesh, both of the Virgin and Child. Surely such extreme paleness is peculiar to the North and West, not to the sunny South and Orient. We need scarcely add that the figure drawing and modelling are admirable. "Rebekah at the Well," Mr. Goodall's second picture, is widely different from the artist's previous realisations of the Old Testament heroine. The figure and face are so much concealed by drapery or veil that, in the absence of incident or other accessory figure to suggest her story (as in the artist's well-known engraved work), there is little to distinguish this from an ordinary study of a Coptic girl. Mr. Burgess, who, as usual, is in force in this gallery, brings all his finesse of expression and humour to an illustration of Spanish life. A duenna has brought two young ladies to the padre to receive a requinapad for reading some "Proscribed Book." The characters are nicely discriminated—the violent officious duenna; the reverent father, retaining the naughty volume while administering the required reproof, but too gallant to allow that reproof to be severe; and the very pretty culprits, one of whom hypocritically pretends to weep, while the other carries her head rather saucily, unconscious of, or unwilling to admit, her sin. From Mr. Long there is a lifesize portrait

to the knees of Miss Bateman as "Fanchette," painted, we believe, some years back. Mr. T. F. Dicksee has a rather large, highly elaborate, picture of "Cleopatra," holding the asp to her breast, which, though well considered in character, dramatic in conception, and sculptural in design, suffers much in dignity from a too polished monotonous texture. In landscape, Mr. Leader takes the first place, according to his wont, in this gallery. His "October on the Team" and "Haymaking" are in the happiest vein of his always bright and taking style. Of other works by English artists we must be content to commend to notice a picture of sheep by Mr. S. Cooper; Mrs. Anderson's "Scandal in the Harem," a sunny and pleasing picture, by Mr. J. Morgan, of the interior of an infant school, with a female teacher examining the little pupils; "Scene in Venice," by Miss Clara Montalba; "Dangerous Roads," by A. W. Gow—the "danger" which this artist so frequently dwells on in his works, arising from possible highwaymen and footpads; Mr. Teniswood's view of Windsor Castle from the Eton playing-fields, with moonlight effect, which is largely infused with poetical feeling and artistic suggestiveness; Mr. A. Saville Lumley's pretty waiting-girl in Zealand costume, bearing a salver of fruit and a loving-cup; and two nice little bits of rustic genre by F. D. Hardy.

Returning to the foreign pictures, there is a single-figure subject, by Meissonier, wonderful, as always, for truth of aspect, science of modelling, and the most skilful combination of precision with freedom in the handling; but not happy in colour, the general tone partaking of a horniness that is found in some of the artist's works. The figure is apparently some functionary of the Directory (the costume, at all events, is of that period) taking his ease outside a cabaret, with coffee, cognac, and Alsatian pipe. Two of M. Chevallard's tiny priest-pictures, humorous and satirical, maintain their spirit. In the one the *bon curé* is eyeing with "Pleasant Anticipations" a pile of game, &c.; in the other, he has hooked a big fish, and is exclaiming, as he feels the drag on the greatly-bent rod, "Qu'il doit être gros!" By C. Moreau there is a picture called "Winter," as pathetic in sentiment as it is broad and masterly in treatment. It is the interior of a peasant's *auberge*, where a lonely old couple are seated, hand-in-hand, fast asleep over the *poêle*, or stove. The earliest light of morning seems to be just breaking through the casement, whence we may infer that they have lingered here in the warm until overtaken by sleep rather than face the severe cold of their humble bed-room. "Children's Party" and "Fortune-Telling," by M. Seignac, and "Visit to Grandmother" and "Hiring a Servant," by Duverger, are agreeable pictures, of the school of Edouard Frère. By De Neuville there is a small study of a "Chasseur d'Afrique," hardly important enough to demand mention were it not that the artist is so celebrated as a military-painter. "A Visit to the Engraver," by M. Vibert, is a capital study of exceptional effect, and will be found of special technical interest to artists. "Dolce far Niente"—a lady in white reading a book—by V. Palmarioli, is almost the sole example (and that a modified one) of the Hispano-Roman school of Fortuné, a school which hardly maintains its rapid advance, if it does not decline as rapidly as it once made its way. Very brilliant and gay is this example, and evincing a sense of beauty in face and form very rare in the school; yet there is something artificial in the forcing of the whites and the absence of chiaroscuro. The forcing of colour—unmitigated, unbroken, local colour—and the rendering all other qualities subservient to it, is the worst tendency of the school; and the artistic appetite already begins to tire of the too strong meat, or to pall upon the *toujours perdrix*.

The twelfth annual Exhibition of Water-Colour Drawings by British and Foreign Artists, at Mr. M'Lean's Gallery, in the Haymarket, opened on Monday last; and on the same day an Exhibition of Works by British Artists opened at Mr. Deschamps's Gallery, in New Bond-street. Our review of these exhibitions must be deferred.

The commission (to which we have before referred) that has been given to Mr. Prinsep to paint the Durbar assembled to hear the proclaiming of the Queen as Empress of India is due to subscriptions from the civil servants of India, raised for the purpose, and amounting to £4000, with an additional £1000 for expenses. The work is to be presented to her Majesty, and will not be less than 30 ft. in length, containing a great number of figures and superb display of costumes, arms, &c. Mr. Prinsep proceeds to India immediately, and may be absent six months.

Mr. Pollen is engaged in decorating some of the more important chambers in Alton Towers for the Earl of Shrewsbury. The decorative features will comprise eight large designs illustrating the career of the commander whose fame is so prominently associated with the history of the family that has been so long established at Alton Towers, and whose acts are dramatically commemorated by Shakespeare.

Mr. Stephen Cave, M.P., presided, yesterday week, at the distribution of prizes to the students in the evening art and science classes of the Wandsworth district. In the course of his observations the right hon. gentleman congratulated the meeting on the increased numbers who were taking advantage of the facilities afforded for this purpose by the Department of Science and Art.

A new School of Art has been opened at Winchester by the Earl of Northbrook, who, in the course of an address, expressed his belief that the great advance made in the art-education of this country was mainly due to the Prince Consort, who saw that English manufacturers were likely to be behind the rest of the world owing to the want of cultivation in art design.

A new Museum and a Lecture Hall, in connection with the Watt Institute, at Greenock, have been opened by Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart. The museum and hall are the gift of Mr. James M'Lean, of West Bank, and have cost £6400.

Sir Henry Cole, K.C.B., presided, on Tuesday evening, at the annual meeting of the Watford Public Library, and distributed the prizes and certificates awarded to the successful students of the School of Science and Art.

At a meeting of the Royal Scottish Academy, on Wednesday, Mr. W. Brodie, R.S.A., was elected secretary in the room of Mr. J. Dick Peddie, R.S.A., who has resigned the office. At the same meeting Mr. R. Anderson, architect, was elected Associate in the room of Mr. George Hay, who was elected an Academician at a previous meeting.

That fine group of sculpture, "The Deer-Stalker," by Mr. E. B. Stephens, A.R.A., which was lately seen in an Exhibition of the Royal Academy, is one of the subjects that have been selected for the "Royal Academy Album" published this season. The group has been cast in bronze, as we mentioned some months since, and is to be presented to the city of Exeter, which is the sculptor's native place. For this purpose a local committee has been formed, under the presidency of the Earl of Devon, while the Devonshire men in London, who are very numerous and fond of their own county, have formed an auxiliary committee. The Duke of Westminster, though not connected with that part of England, has kindly put his name at the head of the subscription-list.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The interest in the Lincoln meeting was well sustained until the end of last week, though, as the races which have to be decided between now and the end of the season will have little or no bearing on future events, we need only touch very lightly on them. The Lincoln Autumn Handicap fell to Munden (8 st. 12 lb.), who was amiss during the greater part of the summer. Even now he has not recovered his best form, for Scamp (8 st. 7 lb.) made a good fight with him, and Fairy King (7 st. 11 lb.) looked like winning until Munden nearly drove him over the rails. Plaisante, who was tried to be a very smart filly in the spring, secured a couple of Nurseries in capital style; and it is evident that her sire, Cymbal, has transmitted her a great deal of his own fine speed. Charon was sent on to Lincoln, after his Brighton Cup victory, to win the Queen's Plate, in which Lady Malden actually ran him to a head. This form could not be true, and it is evident that the Duke of Hamilton's recent purchase cannot always be relied upon to do his best. A pleasant two days at Lewes brought the Sussex week to a close. The average number of starters for the various races was good, and class was represented by that grand filly Placida, who, in the Nursery Stakes, once more demonstrated that a good two-year-old can give almost any amount of weight to a moderate one. As Lady Golightly and Crann Tair have somewhat dimmed their reputations during the past month, Placida must be regarded as the belle of the season.

The Liverpool Meeting is the only one of any importance that has taken place during the present week, and, though there has been a slight frost each night, there is not the smallest fear that it will be sufficiently severe to affect the ground. In the Knowsley Nursery, on Tuesday, Crann Tair just failed to give 30 lb. to Sabrina, another daughter of Lord Lyon. The last-named horse, who is now taking the place to which his pedigree and performances fully entitle him, has had a splendid season, and is now located at Mr. Tattersall's stud farm at Shepherd's-bush. Oxonian, who carries his ten years as gaily as possible, and generally does well at Liverpool, carried off the Stewards' Cup from seven opponents, jumping away from the post in wonderfully smart style, and showing that he still retains a rare dash of speed. We were forcibly reminded on Wednesday of the rapidly approaching termination of the season by finding the Grand Sefton Steeple-chase in the programme. Captain Machell's stable is always very formidable in cross-country events, and he began well by winning with Congress (12 st. 7 lb.). The performance was a very good one, as there were nine behind him, including Earl Marshal, who was in receipt of 24 lb., and yet had no chance.

We regret to have to record the death of Colonel Towneley, which occurred suddenly on Saturday last. The Colonel had reached the advanced age of seventy-three, and, for fully thirty-five years, has been well known as a breeder and owner of racehorses and shorthorns, the latter having, perhaps, the most charms for him. As far back as 1841, Colonel Towneley had two or three horses in training at John Scott's; but his devotion to the turf was very fitful, and it was not until 1859, when he entered into confederation with Mr. Eastwood, that he began to make his mark. In 1860 he won the Oaks with Butterfly, and, in the following season, the breaking down of Dundee enabled Kettledrum to join the list of Derby winners. Since that memorable victory, however, we do not remember Colonel Towneley winning another important race, and, of late years, he had quite relinquished his connection with the turf.

A cup and £250 have been presented to John West, late huntsman to the Cottesmore.

The Border Union (Longtown) Meeting attracted a very large attendance of coursers; and if the class of dogs entered in the Netherby Cup was scarcely so good as usual, the beautiful weather and some fine trials made ample amends for any deficiency in this respect. The wretched display of Early Morn, a great favourite, was the feature of the first round, and Beardwood went down in the second ties. Banker, by Gilsland—Blenkinsop Lass, and Coupland Lass, by Cashier—Canzonette, performed well throughout, and eventually divided—a feat which Bunker also succeeded in accomplishing last year. Bondsman, by Wagga Wagga—Combined, and Sculptor, by Contango—Lilly, divided the Derby Stakes; and the Oaks was shared by Braw Lass, by Blackburn—Happy Lass, and Busy Bee, by Abercrombie—Primrose, both of whom ran very well. The first day's sport at the Sundorne Meeting was rather tame, owing to the scarcity of hares; but matters improved in this respect on the second day; and there was no difficulty in running off both the Uffington and Sundorne Cups, the former being divided between Susia, by Surprise—Susan, and Rondeletia, by Rocketeer—Rose of the Wave; while the latter was won outright by Darius, by King Theodore—Dido. Mr. Warwick and Wilkinson gave great satisfaction as judge and slipper respectively.

The Thames International Regatta, which was concluded on Monday last, proved a complete benefit for the Tyne four, who (between them) secured every professional race. R. W. Boyd was quite the hero of the meeting, and his share of the prizes amounted to about £100. In the Professional Sculls J. Blackman showed unexpectedly fine form; and, though doubtless he would have been beaten by Higgins had the latter been in proper condition, yet he is so young that he ought to make a really first-class man. Next season the regatta will take place in the summer; and, as the unprecedented sum of £2500 is promised in added money, it should be "international" in fact, as well as in name.

The Glasgow Free Presbytery discussed, last week, an overture recommending that the General Assembly should consider the subject of granting liberty for the introduction of instrumental music into public worship in the Church. Fifteen members voted for the transmission of the overture and sixty voted against it.

The appointment of Mr. Henry Charles Lopes to be one of the Judges of her Majesty's High Court of Justice was gazetted on Tuesday night.—The Lord Chancellor, under the powers conferred upon him by the Judicature Act, has decided upon transferring the services of Mr. Justice Hawkins to the Exchequer Division of the High Court of Justice, in the place of Baron Amplett, raised to the Court of Appeal. Under the same Act, all newly-made judges will henceforth be sworn in to the Court of Queen's Bench and be draughted off to the other courts as their services may be required.—Lord Coleridge, in the Court of Common Pleas, last week, spoke of the irreparable loss which the Court and the profession at large had sustained in the death of Mr. Justice Archibald. His Lordship said that he believed that a more stainless character than that of his late colleague was never borne by any man who ever sat upon the English Bench, and that no man was more fit than he to be called away from the great task of judging others to be judged himself. Mr. Cohen, Q.C., the senior member of the Bar present, expressed the conviction of himself and his friends around him that no man had been more respected and beloved than the late Judge.

DUTCHMEN, REAL AND IDEAL.

There is a harmless expression, familiar to all of us, which is, like many most familiar things, in its essence a mystery. "If," you will hear a man say, "Thompson isn't as good as Jones, and better, I'm a Dutchman." There is no untruth in his remark: he is English, but Thompson is no doubt worth many Joneses. The only odd thing is his selection—or rather his rejection—of a nationality. If he is not Dutch, we may be sure (for his remark alone proves him a true-born Briton) that he is just as little French, Spanish, Italian, German, or Japanese; indeed, considering the commonness of English-speaking Hollanders, our easy access to their country, and the established fact that their language is only "bad Yorkshire," the implied asseveration, *I'm not a Dutchman*, is about the least satisfactory that a British imagination could have hit upon.

Why not a Dutchman? It is true that the Dutch were for a time our "natural enemies," and pretty considerably they thrashed us; but the French (and, in earlier days, the Spaniards) held a similar position, occasionally with the same result, for a much longer period. Germans and Italians are also nowadays more unpopular, and there is a good deal of prejudice still afloat against Americans and Russians. Yet no one declares that if black is white he is a Yankee—perhaps, indeed, because he wishes only to demonstrate the fact that he is not such and such a thing, without implying that he is something greatly superior; as who shall question that the noble Briton ranks far above the democrat of America?

We have, indeed, ceased to attribute any specific character to the Dutchman. He has dropped out of our fiction and our politics, and his old qualities of stoutness and stolidity have merely a conventional existence—we occasionally mention Teniers as a full and fair representative of his country's genius, and then have done with him and it. There was, not long ago, a popular and touching ballad which represented the typical Dutchman mourning for the loss of his dog. But, in the first place, there was not a trace of novelty in the conception of its hero's character; and, in the second, the song came from America, where, we believe, the term Dutch is employed to describe immigrant Teutons of all sorts, and in consequence is chiefly used of Germans.

But now the Hollander is upon us. Since Gounod's "Faust," musical London has certainly known no such sensation as Wagner's "Flying Dutchman." The music of the future is having its innings at last, and it has brought with it an ideal inhabitant of Holland so unlike the being to whom our imaginations have always been accustomed, that, like his celebrated countryman Rip, we feel that we have slumbered long, and must rub our eyes and get rid of certain old-fashioned spectres that still hover before them.

Not that the ideal Dutchman of the past looked like a spectre. It is the new one that is weird and ghostly—though the gentleman who embodies him to the eyes of the British public happens to be of very solid build. Wagner shows us an ancient mariner as gaunt and unearthly as Coleridge's—a fine type, one would say, of a country that has had throughout its existence to battle with the sea. He is surrounded for ever by stormy waves; howling winds and salt seaspay accompany him everywhere; and his chief characteristics are those common to all sailors—strong language, and a tendency to seek a wife in every port. As his creator says, "In his furious career, as he rushes along, on the wings of the storm, he terrifies the sailors, who flee from him awestricken and aghast;" and we need hardly remark that this statement alone completely distinguishes him from our earlier ideal, as no tempest, hurricane, cyclone even, could by any possibility bear the conventional Dutchman of our childhood on its wings; nor could he, if by a miracle so borne, ever awaken any feeling but laughter.

Look for a moment at his familiar figure—even as some of his countrymen have shown it to us. It must be acknowledged that Jan Steen was not a romantic person, nor Teniers, with his perpetual boors—whose boorishness, however, he no doubt saw, though it would really seem as if he rather liked it. How round, and slow, and dull, and devoid of poetry the recognised Dutchman is! How constantly he is supposed to follow the maxim of a philosopher of another school—"Take it asy, and if you can't take it asy, take it as asy as you can!" How he smokes, and how he swills!—for drinking, in the savage English sense of the word, we cannot call it. A Dutchman's draught should be as deep as the rolling Zuyder Zee; and if the harmless beer of his country were not attainable, he would most likely be almost as ready to raise his floating stock to its proper level with coffee, hardly more harmless, or simple milk and water. He has a heavy persistency, which may on fit occasions become heroic—the little boy who saved his country by putting his finger into a hole in an embankment (and then, as in our childhood we always imagined, steadfastly sat upon his hand for some hours) was a very good example of the heroic Dutchman of the old school of fiction; he was a noble boy, but we cannot help thinking that he must have either slept or smoked (the Dutch smoke from their cradles) through a great part of his heroism.

These are two pictures, as unlike as the portraits of Hamlet's late father and living uncle; and they probably differ almost as widely from their original as from each other. Of that original two days in Holland are perhaps hardly sufficient to enable one fully to judge; though the criticism of the paper-cutter school, or those youthful experts chastised in this month's *Cornhill* might consider it enough

to enable them to speak, "from personal experience," of anything concerning the Netherlands, their history, their commerce, or their characteristics. The impressions a few very short visits to Rotterdam have made upon us are that the Dutch are a people of average bulk, rather quite and countrified, very good linguists, and unusually bad cooks; that the habit, common among their feminine peasants, of wearing long spiral ornaments of gold above their ears is about equally picturesque and irrational; and, finally, that they certainly prove the absurdity of the asseveration which we began by quoting, by being much more like the English than most other foreigners. These observations are not worth much—it would indeed be difficult to underrate their value—but they are sufficiently different from both the ideals at which we have looked.

Theory would give an ideal Dutchman quite different from the two romance and humour have furnished us with; and theory would not be far wrong. The people of Holland have had great foes to fight, and they have fought and won; nature is against them in many ways, but she strengthens their character, though she makes romantic poetry almost impossible to them. To speak seriously of the Dutch—they are about the most thoroughly heroic nation in Europe, the most genuine, manly, and, in a quiet way, successful; and, if they have not produced a Shelley or a Schubert, the art of Rembrandt is one as satisfactory to all, and far more comprehensible to most.

Then, why laugh at the Dutchman until an eccentric genius clutches you by the hair of the head and compels you to shudder at him? Is it because our literature has not yet a worthy type of him? Let us call upon a poet, less wild than Wagner, more moral than Sardou, to make popular some one of the heroes of Motley's great book. Our greatest English King was a Dutchman—we appreciate him now, if we did not while we had him: it may be, by-the-way, that it was dislike to William and his followers which made the true-born Briton so eager to insist upon his nationality in the form we have quoted more than once. The subjects of the dignified and noble Charles II., and his worthy brother, with their bigoted opponents, hastened to disclaim all relationship to the dull foreigners who had beaten them so soundly. Oh, would some power the giftie gie us—the proverb is something musty, but its application is as fresh as ever. The Germans thank Providence they are not as other men; the French do not trouble their heads about comparison with inferior nations; the English—

We must stop; our list could have no end. It may be that even in Amsterdam vainglory exists—not, perhaps, without reason; one may, for aught we know, commonly hear a Dutchman say that if Thomassen is not equal to Van Jones "he is an Englishman!"

LORD MAYOR'S DAY.

Thursday was favoured with fine weather, although the morning was dark and threatening. A good many persons were consequently drawn to different spots on the line of the procession to view the spectacle. The procession started from the Guildhall at twelve o'clock, passing through Guildhall-yard, King-street, Cheapside, St. Martin's-le-Grand, Aldersgate-street, Jewin-street, Fore-street, Moorgate-street, London-wall, Wormwood-street, Bishopgate, Houndsditch, Minories, Postern-row, Tower-hill, Great Tower-street, Little Tower-street, Eastcheap, past the King William statue, King William-street, Queen Victoria-street, Cannon-street, St. Paul's-churchyard, Ludgate-hill, Fleet-street, Strand, Charing-cross, Whitehall, and Parliament-street to Westminster Hall. The chief feature of interest in the "show" was the novelty, introduced this year as commemorative of the Prince of Wales's visit to India, of several Indian elephants in Oriental trappings, with howdahs, and guided by mahouts. There were in all fourteen elephants, three of which were very small. Several, however, bore howdahs, and the largest and foremost animal carried four men. The elephants were followed by a number of men on horseback in brilliant costumes; considerable amusement was derived from the fact that these riders had blackened faces. Eight Foresters, dressed in green, and six Epping Forest Rangers, attracted great attention. The Lord Mayor, who, with an escort of Hussars, brought up the rear of the procession, was cheered throughout the journey from the City to Westminster. Along the whole route were suspended across the streets and from the windows flags of various nationalities and banners of different descriptions, Aldersgate-street being particularly noticeable for the abundance of decoration displayed.

Westminster Hall was not reached until half-past two, when, the usual ceremonies having been gone through, the procession returned to Guildhall by way of the Victoria Embankment, the public gardens in that thoroughfare being closed for the protection of the plants. Upon its return many of the persons of distinction invited to the Guildhall banquet—among whom were the Ambassadors, her Majesty's Ministers of State, and the judges—followed the procession.

A Government ironclad, named the Nelson, was, on Saturday last, launched from the ship-building yard of Messrs. Elder and Co., Glasgow. The Nelson is 310ft. long and 60ft. broad, and is propelled by engines of 6000-horse power. She will carry twenty-six guns.

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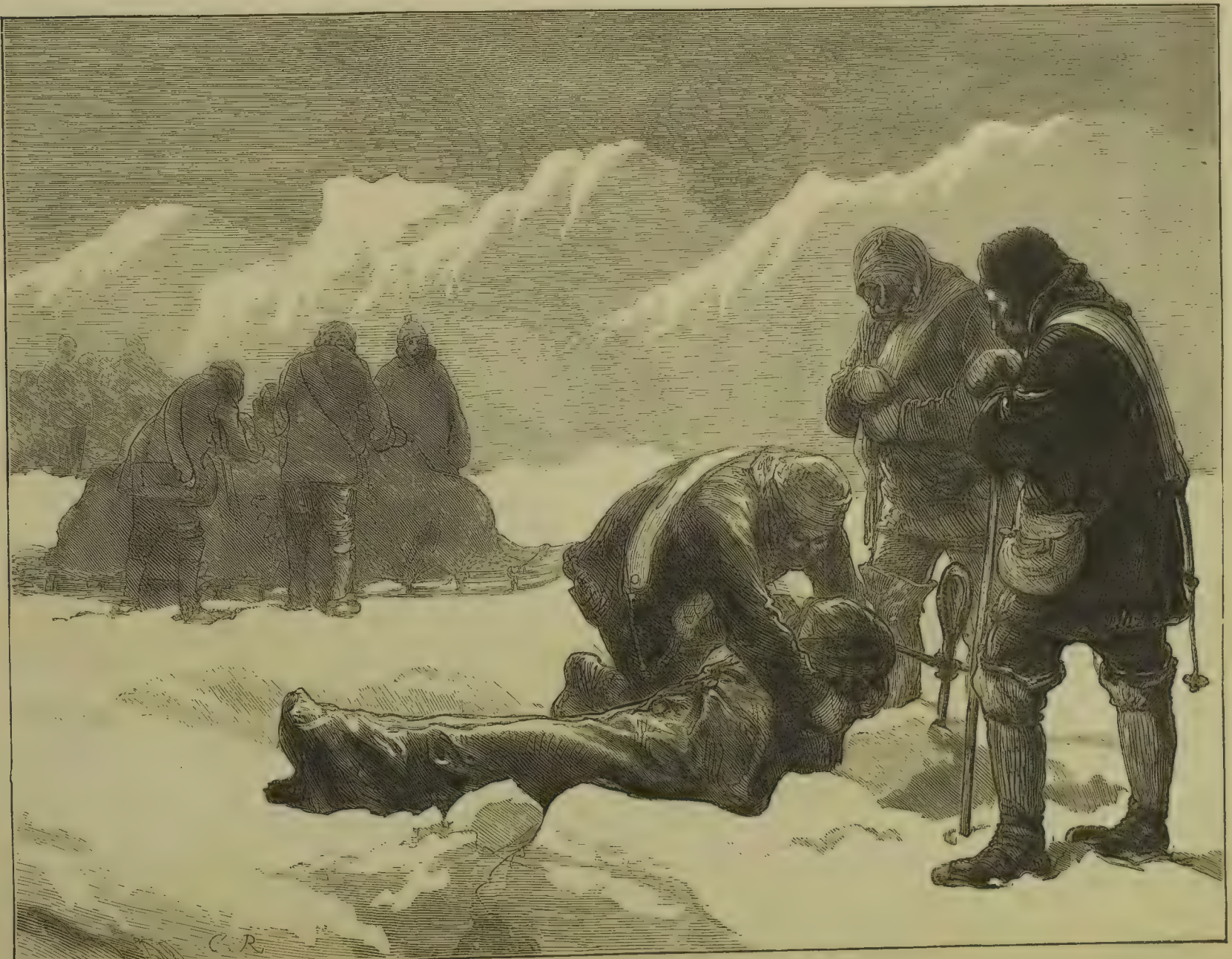


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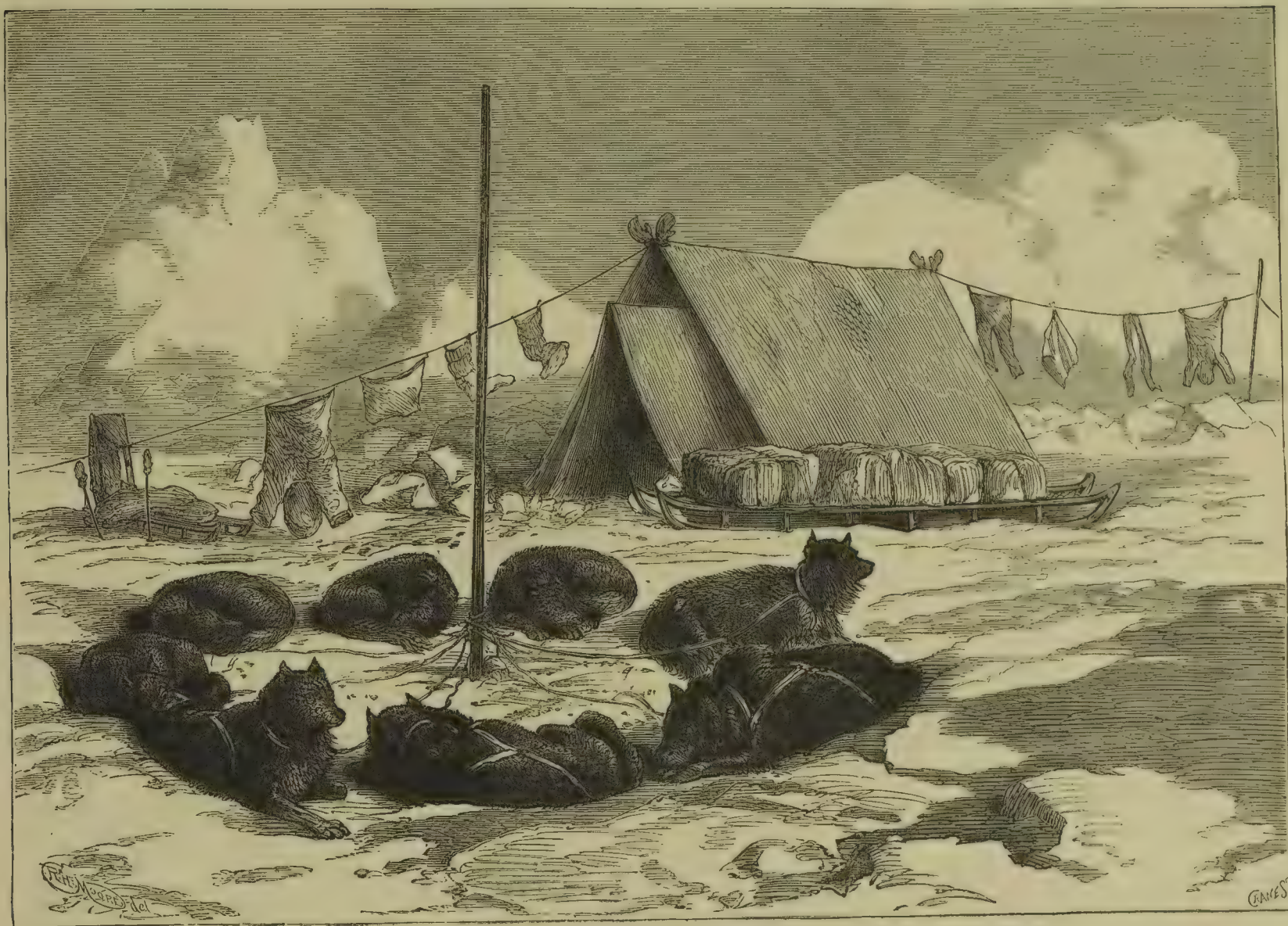
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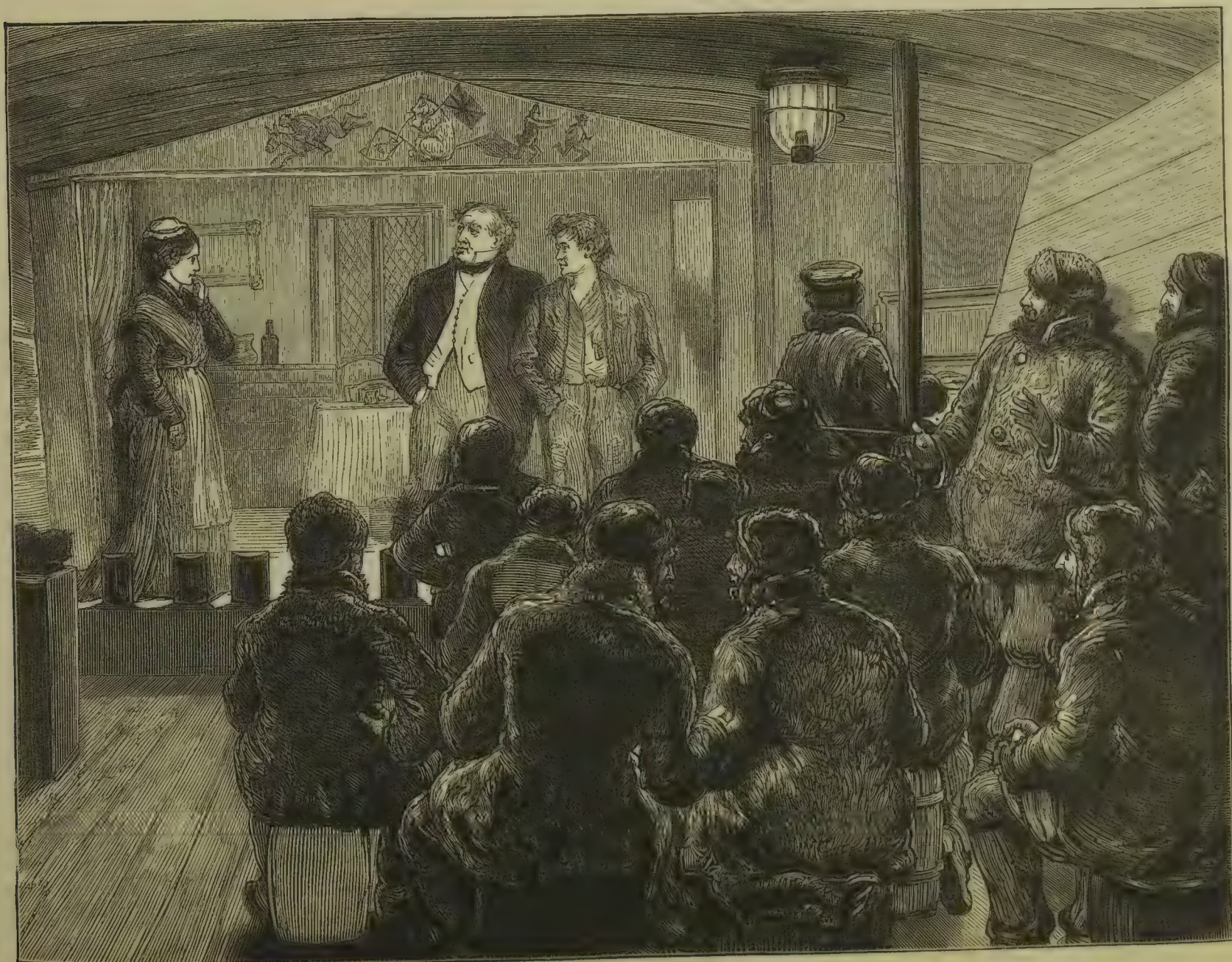
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THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION.



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THEATRICALS ON BOARD THE ALERT.

THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION.

We published, in the last Number of this Journal, several Illustrations of the late Expedition to the Arctic Seas, north of Baffin's Bay, to explore the region lying towards the North Pole. They were supplied by photographs taken on board the two ships, H.M.S. Alert and H.M.S. Discovery, commanded respectively by Captain George S. Nares and Captain Henry F. Stephenson, which formed the exploring squadron, jointly placed under the command of Captain Nares. The official report of Captain Nares to the Lords of the Admiralty has been published; and some extracts from it will here supplement the accounts we gave last week, and will fitly accompany our present Illustrations, which occupy both the ordinary sheets and the Extra Supplement. The reader should again refer, in following this narrative, to the Map which we presented last week. Captain Nares reports in detail all the proceedings of the Expedition since leaving Upernivik on July 22, 1875. He says that, a dense fog prevailing at sea, he steamed to the northward, between the islands and the main land, and decided to force his way through the middle ice of Baffin's Bay instead of proceeding by the ordinary route round Melville Bay. He adds:—

"At the latter end of July, with an open season, I believe a passage can always be made by a steam-vessel; but, unless this favourable combination of circumstances is met with, so far as the scanty knowledge we at present possess enables us to judge, the passage must still be said to be doubtful. Soon after sighting land and getting clear of the drift ice, the Discovery parted company with the Alert to communicate with the natives of Cape York, while the latter vessel proceeded towards the Carey Islands, where the two ships joined company on the night of July 26.

"At eight a.m. of July 28, five days and a half from leaving the anchorage of Upernivik, I had the satisfaction of seeing the Expedition at anchor near Port Foulke, with the entrance of Smith's Sound perfectly clear of ice and none coming to the southward, with a fresh northerly wind."

While Captain Stephenson explored the head of Foulke Fiord, to ascertain its suitability as a station for winter quarters for any relief vessel coming to their assistance, Captain Nares and Commander Markham proceeded in a boat to Littleton Island and Life-Boat Cove, the scene of the wreck of the *Polaris*; and, on returning to the Alert, landed at Littleton Island, and on the south-west brow erected a cairn and deposited a notice containing a short account of the movements and prospects of the Expedition up to that time.

On the morning of the 29th the two ships sailed for Cape Isabella, with fine weather; but, as they approached the western shore, a snowstorm worked its way over the land from the interior, and reached them just as they arrived at the Cape. As the weather was so thick that no one on board the ships, except those employed in establishing the cairn and small dépôt of provisions, could see its position, and there was therefore no reason for delaying the Discovery, Captain Stephenson proceeded. The cairn was built on the summit of the outer easternmost spur of the Cape, at an elevation of about 700 ft. from the water. On the boat returning on board, at five p.m., Captain Nares steamed to the northward for Cape Sabine, the wind having died away, but the weather continuing misty with snow. The report goes on to say:—

"Early in the morning of July 30, having run our distance for Cape Sabine, I stopped steaming, and at five a.m., the mist clearing off, I observed the Discovery near the land, apparently beset with a close pack of ice five or six miles broad; no ice in sight to seaward. As I did not wish the two ships to separate, and the calm weather being favourable, I bored through the pack, which, although apparently close, opened sufficiently to admit of the slow progress of the ship until we gained the land in company with the Discovery and secured the ships in a convenient harbour, named after Lieutenant Payer, the successful and energetic Arctic traveller, two miles to the southward of Cape Sabine."

Here the ships were detained for three days watching for an opening in the ice, getting under way whenever there appeared the slightest chance of proceeding onwards, but on each occasion, being unable to pass Cape Sabine, were forced to return. Early, however, on the morning of Aug. 4 sail was made, and the ship succeeded, with only one short detention, in advancing twenty miles along the southern shore of Hayes Sound. By eight a.m. on the morning of Aug. 8 Captain Nares succeeded in reaching the land water off Cape Victoria, the ships having sustained no more serious damage during their severe encounters with the ice on the way than sprung rudder-heads, consequent on the frequent necessity of going full speed astern.

On passing Cape Victoria Commander Markham landed to ascertain the state of the ice, but, a very thick fog and snowstorm coming on, he was obliged to return. At high water, however, the ice opened, and the ships were secured to the land ice in Franklin Pierce Bay, on the southern shore of Grinnell Land. On the morning of Aug. 9, after depositing a record in a small cairn erected on a spur of the limestone hills, 200 ft. above the sea, on the west side of the bay, one mile and a half east from Cape Harrison, they gained three miles of easting; but, being unable to round Cape Prescott, were made fast to an extensive floe extending from that cape to Norman Lockyer Land, which stopped all further progress.

During an ebb tide on Aug. 15, after blasting a passage through a neck of ice, Captain Nares succeeded in docking the ships in an extensive floe four miles N.W. of Cape Hilgard. He says:—

"A mile north of our position was an island, having a channel half a mile broad between it and the eastern shore of the bay, named Prince Imperial Island. The land ice, which had not broken out this season, extended from the island in a westerly direction across the bay. Several small icebergs were frozen in at the head of the bay, where there are some large discharging glaciers named after the Empress Eugénie.

"The land, as far as our exploration went, was very bare of game and not well vegetated. A floe of last season's ice was observed in the bay, between Cape Hilgard and Cape Louis Napoleon, but off each of these headlands the piled-up ice-foot denoting very heavy recent pressure from the eastward.

"On the evening of Aug. 15, after considerable labour, we succeeded in blasting and clearing away a barrier which separated the ships from a water channel leading beyond Cape Louis Napoleon; but so narrow was the channel that, notwithstanding the extreme care of Captain Stephenson, the Discovery took the ground for a few minutes while steaming between the ice and the shallow shore.

"By eight a.m. of the 16th we had advanced to within five miles of Captain Frazer, but here we again met with a block. Calm weather and spring tides caused much and constant movement in the ice, the main tendency being to drift to the southward at the rate of about five miles a day. On the two following days, the constant movement of the heavy floes, nipping together with great force, like the closing of a gigantic pair of scissors, between which, if once caught, the ships would have been instantaneously crushed, caused much anxiety, and necessitated constant watchfulness and much labour on the part of the officers and crew; and all were much distressed at losing three or four miles of ground previously gained.

"The rudders and screws were constantly being shipped and unshipped, the midship boats were obliged to be turned inboard, on account of the ice touching their keels, and steam, when not in use, was always kept ready at twenty minutes' notice. Beyond wrenching the rudder-head, no serious damage occurred.

"On the 19th, the highest spring tide, the ice near us became more open; and from a high station on Mount Joy I saw that we could at least regain our lost station, and might get further north.

"Knowing that this was our last chance during the present tides, and until the strong westerly winds set in, and the pack having opened for the first time, I risked boring my way into the pack for two miles, and by so doing entered a channel round Cape Frazer, which had long been considered as one of the most difficult milestones to pass on our passage north.

"By nine p.m., after a few hours' delay during the flood tide, which brought the ice inshore again, we were fairly in Kennedy Channel, secured to a floe off Cape John Barrow; only two days later in the year than when the Resolute was blown out of winter quarters at Melville Island in 1853, and with a fortnight of the navigable season still before us.

"Between Scoresby Bay and Dobbin Bay there is no protection obtainable except inside grounded icebergs. None of the shallow bays are deep enough to shelter a ship from the pressure of heavy ice."

Soon after midnight the ice moved off shore, opening a passage, and the ships reached what was supposed to be Cape Collinson, the second of two capes to the north of the large bay. Here a dépôt of provisions was landed, and on the night of Aug. 21, the ships, after a troublesome passage through about three miles of close heavy floe pieces, passed into open leads of water, extending towards the north-east up the strait, and by noon of the 22nd, after buffeting against a strong breeze, succeeded in weathering the northern headland of Carl Ritter Bay. In this part of the channel there was, it seems, very little ice; but three or four miles further north a heavy pack extended across towards Crozier Island and obliged them to proceed in that direction.

Steaming to the northward, Captain Nares endeavoured to close the western shore south of Cape Crocrot, but the ice prevented him doing so, and forced him to bear up to the eastward of Cape Bryant, passing which he found the ice-pack extending across from Cape Morton and Joe Island to Cape Lieber, with a south-westerly wind constantly adding to it by driving more ice to the northward through Kennedy Channel. The Discovery then landed a dépôt of 240 rations at Cape Morton for use of any travelling party exploring Petermann Fiord, and the ships beat back to Bessels Bay, in the entrance of which they obtained a sheltered anchorage to the north of Hannah Island. But five miles north of Cape Lieber the ice-pack obliged them to enter Lady Franklin Sound, on the northern shore of which an indentation in the land gave promise of protection. On a nearer approach they discovered a large and well-protected harbour inside an island immediately west of Cape Bellot, against which the pack-ice of the channel rested. Here the ships were secured close to the shore on the morning of Aug. 25.

On the morning of Aug. 26 the two ships forming the Expedition, the officers and crews of which it is stated had worked most harmoniously and successfully together, separated; and, a final good-by having been signalled to the Discovery from the Alert on the 28th, the latter succeeded in advancing to within a mile of Cape Beechey. On the 30th a dépôt of provisions of 1000 rations, for the use of travelling parties, was landed on the north shore of Lincoln Bay. Soon after high-water, the ice having opened out considerably, the Alert proceeded to the northward; but in doing so some large floe pieces of unusually heavy ice obliged Captain Nares to stand out some three miles from the land, thereby risking the ship being beset in the pack, which he was most anxious to avoid. He says:—

"On all occasions of viewing the ice in Robeson Channel since it was first seen from Cape Morton, I had invariably noticed lanes of water stretching S.E. and N.W. across the channel from about Cape Lupton on the Greenland shore to Cape Frederick VII. on the west side, due probably to this being the narrowest part or neck of the channel, and the ice jamming across the narrowing space north and south of it, according to the direction of pressure. Consequently, when, at three p.m., the ice prevented any further advance, observing many pools of water near us, and having two hours of the north running tide favoured by a light air still due, instead of returning to the safety of Lincoln Bay I waited at the edge of the pack in the hope of its opening. But in this I was disappointed, for at four p.m., having just sufficient warning to enable me to pick out the safest-looking place near us—that is, to get as far away as possible from the heavy ice, it completely encircled the ship, and she was hopelessly beset in a very heavy pack, consisting of old floes of 80 ft. in thickness, and from one to four miles in diameter, the intervals between them filled with broken-up ice of all sizes; from the blue ice-rounded hummocks which were sufficiently high above the water-line to lift the quarter-boats bodily as they passed underneath, while grinding their way along the ship's side, down to the smaller pieces which the previous nipping together of the heavy floes had rounded and polished like the boulders and pebbles in a rapid river. Intermixed with the pack, fortunately for us, was a vast collection of soft pats of sludge-ice formed during the last snowfall; this, if squeezed together before it is properly hardened into ice, forms into plate-like masses with raised edges, each piece, whenever moved, assisting to round its neighbour. Since meeting the ice off Cape Sabine I had noticed a gradual, but considerable, change taking place in the appearance and formation of the floes. The heaviest that we first encountered were not more than 8 ft. or 10 ft. in thickness. Off Cape Frazer were a few more ancient pieces, estimated at the time as being 20 ft. thick; but we now know that was far short of the correct measure. But up to the present time, when the main pack consisted of heavy ice, I had failed to realise that, instead of approaching a region favoured with open water and a warm climate, we were gradually nearing a sea where the ice was of a totally different formation to what we had ever before experienced, and that few Arctic navigators had met, and only one battled with successfully; that, in reality we must be approaching the same sea which gives birth to the ice met with on the coast of America by Collinson and McClure, and which the latter, in 1851, succeeded in navigating through in a sailing-vessel for upwards of a hundred miles, during his memorable and perilous passage along the north-west coast of Banks Land, from Prince Alfred Cape to the Bay of Mercy, but there sealed up his ship for ever; which Sir Edward Parry met with in the same channel, in 1820, but, with the more difficult task before him of navigating against stream and prevailing wind, was forced to own conquered even him and his experienced companions; which, passing onwards to the eastward down McClintock Channel, beset, and never afterwards released, the Erebus and Terror, under Sir John Franklin and Captain Crozier; and which, intermixed with light Spitzbergen ice, is constantly streaming to the southward along the eastern shore of Greenland, and there destroyed the Hansa, of the German Arctic Expedition.

"As our only hope of pushing north against the general set of the current, to say nothing of the extreme hazard of remaining in such a pack, consisted in regaining the shore, both boilers were lighted and full steam kept ready, in order to take immediate advantage of any opportunity that might occur. During the night, at the top of high water, the pack, which previously had been drifting in a compact body to the southward, eased a little near the edge of the large and deep floating floes, in consequence of a difference in the force of the surface and under-current; but, before we were able to clear away a space of water at the stern sufficiently large to enable the rudder to be shipped, the ice closed, and obliged us to dis-mantle again. At the full height of the ebb current the pack again tried its best to open, but with the same result.

"Fully expecting a change at low water, with much labour a working space was cleared under the stern, but, owing to the spare rudder being very badly balanced, we nearly lost our opportunity. At last, with the same momentary slackening of the ice pressure as occurred at the top of high water, with a greater pressure of steam than had been exerted even during the official steam trial, the ship commenced to move; when, by advancing and retreating, a water space was gradually formed in which the ship could gain momentum, and at last we pushed our way bodily into ice not quite so close, and succeeded most providentially in reaching the shore in Lincoln Bay. Had we been delayed five minutes the ship would have been caught in the pack during the heavy gale which set in from the S.W. the same evening, and continued for another two days, and which, in fact, by forcing the pack to the N.E. out of the Robeson Channel, enabled the ship to pass Cape Union without any trouble.

"During the late struggle, as well as on many previous occasions, it was noticeable how futile the efforts of the crew were to clear away the ice on the bow or quarter which impeded the movement of the ship, compared to the enormous power exerted by the ship when able to run her way between the pieces even at ordinary speed. Thus, steamers are enabled to penetrate through a broken-up pack which the old voyagers, with their sailing-vessels, necessarily deemed impassable. At the same time there is a limit to the risks which are advisable to be run; no ship has yet been built which could stand a real nip from two pieces of heavy ice.

"On the afternoon of Aug. 31, shortly after the ship was secured in her former position to the firm ice in Lincoln Bay, the wind gradually freshened from the south-west, blowing slightly off the land, accompanied with a snowstorm and a threatening appearance of the weather.

"So far as we could distinguish through the snow, the main pack was driven by the gale to the northward up the channel; but, knowing that it would take some hours to produce a navigable passage past Cape Union, I waited until the morning of Sept. 1, when, with steam at hand ready if requisite, we passed up the strait, running before a strong gale nine knots and a half an hour, between the western shore and the pack, which was driving quickly to the northward, at about three miles' distance from the land.

"By noon, having carried her Majesty's ship into latitude 82 deg. 24 min. N.—a higher latitude than any vessel had ever before attained, the ensign was hoisted at the peak."

"On hauling to the westward of the northern entrance of Robeson Channel, we lost the wind under the lee of the land, and were obliged to furl sails and proceed under steam. At the same time the breadth of the navigable water channel was much contracted, until, off Cape Sheridan, the ice was observed to be touching the shore.

"In Robeson Channel proper, except where the cliffs rise precipitously from the sea and afford no ledge or step on which the ice can lodge, the shore-line is fringed at a few paces distance by a nearly continuous ragged-topped ice wall from 15 ft. to 35 ft. high. It is broken only opposite the larger ravines, where the soil carried down by the summer flood has, by accumulating, shallowed the water sufficiently to catch up the drifting ice as it passes, and form a line of more isolated ice hummocks. Here the continuity of the ice wall is occasionally broken. But on leaving Robeson Channel immediately the land trends to the westward, the coast-line loses its steep character, and the heavy ice is stranded at a distance of 100 to 200 yards from the shore, forming a fringe of detached masses of ice from 20 ft. to upwards of 60 ft. in height above water, aground in from eight to twelve fathoms water, and, except where the coast is shallow, extending close into the beach-line. The average measurement of the ice in thickness as it floated is 80 ft., and it always breaks from the salt water floe—of which it originally formed a part—in pieces of slightly greater dimensions in horizontal measurements. On finding the ice close in at Cape Sheridan, having made good twenty-five miles of nothing since leaving Lincoln Bay in the morning, my only alternative was to secure the ship inside this protecting barrier of ice, where she was accordingly placed during the afternoon, and a dépôt of provisions of 2000 rations established for the use of travelling parties."

The place to which Captain Nares had at this time brought his ship will be found distinctly marked in our Map published last week, and the Map contains also the names of almost all the places mentioned in the preceding narrative. Lincoln Bay, on the west shore of Robeson Channel, has Cape Union to the north of it, beyond which is Cape Sheridan, with a coast there turning sharply westward, which really terminates the known land. The supposed land still farther north, which is delineated in the Map, with a coast presenting many capes and apparent inlets, is only what the crew of the *Polaris*, five years ago, believed they saw from a distance. They may have been deceived by an optical illusion, with regard to the coast-line of this land on the west side of Lincoln Sea, as well as "President Land," to the far north.

Captain Nares speaks thus of his observations on Sept. 11: "The sky being fairly clear, this was the first day on which we were able to pronounce decidedly concerning the northern land reported to exist by the *Polaris*. After a constant watch, and carefully noting the movement of the darkened patches, I was now, with much reluctance, forced to admit that no land existed to the northward for a very considerable distance. As seen through the light haze, the dark reflection of the sky above the detached pools of water in the offing, in strong contrast by the side of the light reflected from the close ice, which in a great measure is similar to the bright glare reflected from a large sand flat, creates a very decided appearance of land when there is a mirage—indeed, sufficiently so as to deceive many of us when so anxiously expecting and hoping to see it. We therefore cease to wonder at the casual look-out men from the *Polaris* being mistaken, but the more experienced on board should not have allowed themselves to be so readily misled."

Some days after their arrival here, Commander Albert Hastings Markham and Lieutenant Pelham Aldrich started to look at a bay seen from about eight miles distant from the ship to the westward. They reported that it was a well-sheltered harbour, thickly coated with that season's ice, but that the continuous wall formed by the grounded floe-bergs across the entrance to it would effectually prevent the ship entering.

After that report, with the temperature remaining steady

between +20 deg. and +10 deg., and the barrier of grounded ice, Captain Nares decided to commence landing such provisions and stores as were hampering the decks of the ship, and which would not be required during the winter. Preparations were then made for the autumn sledging, and, as soon as the shore-ice was sufficiently strong, Commander A. H. Markham, with Lieutenants A. A. C. Parr and W. H. May under his orders, started, on Sept. 25, with three sledges, to establish a dépôt of provisions as far in advance to the north-westward as possible.

On Oct. 14, two days after the sun had left, Commander Markham's party returned, after a journey of nineteen days, having, with very severe labour, succeeded in placing a dépôt of provisions in latitude 82 deg. 44 min. North, and of tracing the coast-line nearly two miles further North, thus reaching the exact latitude attained by Sir Edward Parry.

Captain Nares continues:—

"During these autumn sledging journeys, with the temperature ranging between 15 deg. above and 22 deg. below zero, the heavy labour, hardships, and discomforts inseparable from Arctic travelling, caused by the wet, soft snow, weak ice, and water spaces, which obliged the sledges to be dragged over the hills, combined with constant strong winds and misty weather, were, if anything, much greater than those usually experienced. Out of the northern party of twenty-one men and three officers, no less than seven men and one officer returned to the ship badly frostbitten, three of these so severely as to render amputation necessary, the patients being confined to their beds for the greater part of the winter.

The long Arctic winter, with its unparalleled intensity and duration of darkness, produced by an absence of sunlight for 142 days, was passed by each individual on board with much cheerfulness and contentment. Owing to the sameness in the daily routine, which, when looking into futurity, is thought to entail a long duration of dreary monotony, the time in reality passed with great rapidity; and in January, when the first glimmering increase in the mid-day twilight began to lengthen sensibly day by day, the want of light was scarcely noticed by any one; and not until the sun actually returned, on March 1, did we in any way realise the intense darkness we must have experienced for so long a period. The manifold ordinary duties of the ship—to which were added the constant repair of the snow embankment, which, in consequence of our being frozen in close to a stranded piece of ice, was thrown down every spring tide—kept the ship's company fully employed and gave them plenty of exercise during the day. On fine evenings in the week a school, formed on the lower deck under Commander Markham and several of the officers, was well attended, each Thursday being devoted to lectures, songs in character, and readings, with occasional theatrical representations; the whole so admirably arranged and conducted by Commander Markham as to keep up the pleased interest of all for the whole period. The ventilation of the ship received the unceasing attention of Dr. Thomas Colan and myself, and, owing to the large extra space amidstships, left little or nothing to be desired in that respect. The health of the officers and crew, with only one exception, was most excellent, and the habitable deck as dry as is possible in these regions, in a ship without an extraordinary expenditure of coal."

On only two days were the officers and men prevented by the wind and accompanying snowdrift from taking exercise outside the ship, but the quiet state of the atmosphere was productive of the severest cold ever experienced in the Arctic regions.

On March 1 the sun returned after its long absence, and preparations were made for the sledging campaign, and until the latter end of May sledge parties were continually arriving or departing, carrying forward dépôts of provisions for the use of the distant parties on their return. We gave some account, last week, of the sledge-travelling parties; one of which went westward to explore Lady Franklin Bay or Sound, while others went eastward to the coasts of Greenland. Captain Nares proceeds:—

"Their severe labour and exertions, which certainly can never be surpassed, coupled with the experience gained by Sir Edward Parry in the summer of 1827, proves that a lengthened journey over the Polar pack-ice with a sledge party provided with a navigable boat is, in consequence of the rough nature of the road over which the party has to travel, impracticable at any season of the year. It may be necessary here to state that the much-to-be-deplored outbreak of scurvy which attacked the whole ship's company, which certainly shortened the journey to the extent of some ten or twenty miles, in no way affects the conclusions to be derived from it."

Notwithstanding, however, the state to which the men appear to have been reduced, as soon as fresh food was procured they steadily recovered. The same sort of battle went on between the ships and the ice on their return south as on their passage north; but Captain Nares bears testimony to the courage and fortitude which were displayed by the officers and crews of both vessels, who throughout resolutely struggled against illness and privation in the discharge of their duty. Captain Nares adds:—

"The only object to be gained by the expedition remaining where it was for another season would be to extend the exploration of the shores of Grant Land to the south-westward, and Greenland to the north-east or eastward; but, as with the whole resources of the expedition I could not hope to advance more than about fifty miles beyond the positions already attained on those coasts, and, moreover, although the crew were rapidly recovering from the disease which had attacked them, they would certainly be unfit for employment on extended sledge parties next year, I decided that the expedition should return to England as soon as the ice broke up and released the ship. It was with the very greatest regret I felt it my duty to give up the very interesting further examination of the northern coast of Greenland."

NARRATIVE OF THE CHAPLAIN OF THE DISCOVERY.

The following narrative of the experiences on board the Discovery is supplied by the chaplain of that ship, the Rev. Charles Hodson:—

"We left Portsmouth on May 29, went through the Scilly Islands, and arrived at Berehaven on June 2. I think we left there the next afternoon. We had a very rough passage most of the way through the Atlantic. We were accompanied by the Alert and the Valorous, the latter carrying coals. In a cyclone somewhere or other in the Atlantic one of our boats was destroyed and another damaged severely. After that we only sighted one sail all the way, and that was a British vessel homeward bound, name and cargo unknown. I cannot remember the day we reached Cape Farewell, in Greenland, but it took us about five weeks to reach safely the port of Disco Island. There are ninety-six people living in that port. The population is composed of Danes and Esquimaux, and is, generally speaking, a mixed race. The inspector of North Greenland has his residence there. The occupation of the people consists in catching seals, which abound there, for the oil and skins. The harbour is a commodious one, and here we remained fourteen days, and sent home despatches. When we arrived we found that the Alert had arrived there some hours

before, and was then coaling from the Valorous, which had arrived the preceding day. We had not seen the Valorous since we were parted from her on June 13, but we had been in company with the Alert for five days previously. Directly we got round Cape Farewell the weather became fine, and it was very smooth as we passed through Davis Strait. The houses in Disco are built of wood and painted black. Some of the poorer people live in hovels built of turf. The island is situated in lat. about 70 deg., and its area is nearly fifty miles square. Directly we arrived a salute was fired from three small brass cannons before the inspector's house. The present inspector is a Danish officer, named Smith. There is a school, very well conducted, and about sixteen children attended. The schoolmaster also conducts the religious services, on Sundays, in the church, which is of the Lutheran denomination. A pastor comes from Upernavik, which is farther north, whenever any of the more important religious ceremonies are to be performed, such as marriages or christenings. There we stayed about ten days, made excursions into the mountains, and exchanged civilities with the Governor. The people are very quiet and well conducted. At that place the weather was very warm, for the snow had not yet melted on the tops of the hills. We had a good deal of sport there, shooting elder duck, and got a lot of fish from the natives. We brought with us one of their kyaks or canoes, of rather curious construction. They are made of frames of wood, covered over with sealskin. They are very difficult to enter, and still more difficult to manage. At Disco the Alert took in thirty dogs and a dog-driver. We left Disco at one o'clock in the evening of July 16, last year, taking the inspector of North Greenland on board the Alert. The Discovery was in tow of the Alert, and his boat in tow of the Discovery. Next morning we arrived at Rietenbank, about thirty miles north. This is a small island between Disco and the main land, in the strait of Weigat. Here the Discovery took in thirty dogs. Both ships sent parties on a shooting expedition to a loomery, a name given to a place frequented by guillemots and other wild birds. They shot a considerable number of them, and they also sent a party to visit a glacier, returning about three o'clock next morning. It was now perfectly light all through the twenty-four hours. The Valorous left at four o'clock on the next day, proceeding to some coal-pits in the neighbourhood for the purpose of coaling. The Alert and Discovery got up steam about six a.m., proceeded north towards Weigat, and signalled farewell to the Valorous at seven in the evening. This was the last we saw of the Valorous. A day or two after, the ships arrived at a settlement named Proven, where we took up an Esquimaux dog-driver, named Niels Christian Petersen, who had accompanied Dr. Kane, Dr. Hayes, and Dr. Hall's expeditions. The next day, or the day after, we arrived at Upernavik; we there had the last communication with home, and sent our last letters. We remained but one day there, and left in the evening. Proceeding north through Baffin's Bay, we arrived at Cape York on July 25. We here saw a lot of Arctic Highlanders, a race of Esquimaux, who came in dog-sledges over the ice-floes to the ships surrounded by ice. We met with ice soon after leaving Cape Farewell, and were often obstructed; but generally the sea was clear enough until we went up further. We were not seriously obstructed till we came to Cape York. We remained here two or three days, and during that time one of our boats harpooned a narwhal. We gave a lot of the skin and blubber to the Esquimaux. Those we met with were very barbarous in their habits. They devoured the blubber greedily, and it was usual for one of them to cram his mouth to the greatest extent, and then cut off with his knife whatever his mouth did not contain. They wear an upper garment made of sealskin with trousers of bearskin. They build dog-sledges, but have not advanced so far as to have kyaks. They never met with Europeans previously, as far as we could understand. They eat whatever comes in their way, but generally live on the flesh of seals and bears. We next proceeded northward by the Crimson Cliffs, and, after a few days, arrived at Port Foulke, the winter quarters of Dr. Kane, where we spent the day. One party took a ramble to the Brother John Glacier (so called by Dr. Kane, after his brother), and shot a reindeer, the only one we met during this time. We also shot a large number of birds. We here found Dr. Kane's journal, but no remains of his party. Next morning we left to cross Smith Sound, being somewhat obstructed by ice, and reached Cape Isabella about two days after. There was no wind, and we had to steam all the way. Sometimes we were hemmed in by ice, and had to wait until we could get a passage. We were delayed at Cape Isabella for three weeks by the heavy ice at the other side of Smith Sound and Hayes Sound. We cruised about here for a few days as well as we could, landing every now and then, and gradually we got to the north of Hayes Sound, and reached Cape Frazer, where we were delayed for some days by the ice. After that we crossed the channel, which is called Kennedy Channel, to the east side, and entered Petermann Fiord. After a few days we left that and crossed over the channel, again arriving in a commodious harbour on Aug. 25. There the Discovery remained until Aug. 20 this year. The Alert left after a couple of days, and proceeded northwards. She went about fifty miles further north, but this we did not hear of until the following spring. Immediately on our entering the harbour we commenced unloading the ship, landing boats and stores and spare spars, and otherwise preparing for the winter. The first day we landed we shot a herd of eleven musk oxen. A few days after the frost set in, and the sea was frozen around the ship. One could walk on the ice all round. In about a week after we saw a large number of musk oxen, and shot about forty of them then, as well as some more in the spring. The majority of them were killed by Mr. Cartmel, chief engineer. The harbour is surrounded by the hills, about 2000 ft. in height. We christened it Discovery Harbour. We could land close to the ship's anchorage. When the sea was completely frozen over the sleighing parties set out on their expeditions; but not much was done this way during the autumn by our ship. The harbour was, however, surveyed by some officers in dog-sledges. I may say that of all the dogs we had, but one remains alive with us at present. As soon as the ice could bear it, we commenced building houses upon it. We also built a magnetic observatory and an ice theatre; but, first of all, a smithy was built, on Nov. 15, 1875. It had a roof made of coal-bags, cemented with ice; and our stoker, who worked as a blacksmith, had a very nice place of it; but he made a good many holes in the wall, as, whenever he wanted to cool the iron, he had only to thrust it through the ice. The theatre was 60 ft. long by 27 ft. broad. It had a green-room and a stage. We called it the Alexandra Theatre, in honour of the Princess of Wales, and it was opened on Dec. 1, her birthday, when we produced the farce, "My Turn Next." Some songs were afterwards sung by the men. Mr. Miller, one of our engineers, was one of our best actors, and a great support to our theatre. From time to time during the winter plays were produced by officers and men alternately. The entertainments were varied by songs and recitations, not a few of these being original. On Nov. 5 we had a bonfire on the ice, and burnt the 'Guy' according to the usual custom. We had rockets, blue lights, and different other things, and enjoyed ourselves in every possible way. I forgot to say that we

saw the last sun about Oct. 17. There were splendid effects in the sky about that time, and the hills were tinged with purple and gold. While the sun disappeared the men had an extra glass of grog served out to them. As soon as the ice was sufficiently firm a walk of a mile in length was constructed by shovelling away the snow. This place was generally used as an exercise-ground. During the winter we also constructed a skating-rink. We made it in this way. We cleared away the snow in a circle of six or seven feet in diameter, and made a hole in the ice, through which we drew the water in buckets and poured it on the rough ice. We always kept a fire-hole in the ice near the ship. From time to time this gradually closed, and it had then to be sawn with ice-saws or blasted with gunpowder. The dogs lived on the open floe all the winter. The changes in the temperature are very rapid and remarkable. I have known it to vary 60 deg. in a few hours. The coldest weather we had was in March, when one night the glass showed minus 70½ deg. Fahrenheit; that is over 100 deg. below freezing-point—the greatest cold ever reached by any expedition. We wore very thick warm clothing, and never was it more needed. And now a few words as to the manner in which we kept Christmas. First of all, we had in the morning the 'Christmas waits' in the usual manner. A sergeant of marines, a mate, and three others, went round the ship singing carols suited to the occasion, and made a special stay outside the Captain's cabin on the lower deck. In the forenoon there were prayers, and after that the Captain and officers visited the mess in the lower deck, tasted the pudding, inspected the decorations which had been made, and so on. Then the boxes of presents given by friends in England were brought out, the names of those for whom each was intended having been previously affixed to each box. The presents were distributed by the Captain. Ringing cheers, which sounded strange enough in that lone place, were given for the donors, some of them very dear to men who were far away from their homes. Cheers were also given for the Captain and for absent comrades. In the Alert a choir was formed, and the "roast beef of Old England" had its virtues praised again. The men had their dinner at twelve o'clock, and the officers dined together at five. With regard to 'absent comrades,' I may explain that when the Alert left us an officer, Mr. Rawson, with seven of our men, went in her with sledges in order to bring us back news of her whereabouts, if possible; but they were prevented from doing so by the ice not being in a fit state for travelling. We had a sumptuous dinner for once, at Christmas. We had brought fish, beef, and mutton from England, which we hung up on one of the masts, and it was soon as hard as a brick and perfectly preserved. We also brought some sheep from England, and they were killed from time to time. When we arrived in Discovery Bay, as we called it, six of them were alive, but on being landed they were worried by the dogs and had to be slaughtered. During the winter the men had to fetch ice from a berg about half a mile distant from the ship, in order to melt it for fresh water. This used to be brought in sledges. The sun returned on the last day in February. From November till February, with the exception of the starlight, and occasionally moonlight, we were in darkness. It used not to be dense by any means, but at the same time you could easily pass a friend without knowing him. On the day the sun was to rise we had calculated that it would be about twelve o'clock, and all hands ascended the hills to see him rising. This sight was, however, prevented by the mists and fog. We did not see the sun for several days after. Near the end of March a sledge, with two officers and two men, arrived from the Alert, the mercury standing at minus 40 deg. Fahrenheit, after having had a journey of six days. They had started to come to us some time before, but were obliged to return on account of Petersen, the Dane, being severely frostbitten. They took him back just alive, and he died some time afterwards. Directly they returned to the Discovery, preparations began to be made for sledging; the sledges were taken out, and men told off for different parties. Two officers and three men, with a dog-sledge, set out to cross Robeson Channel to Hall's Rest, the winter quarters of the Polaris, to report on the stores left there by that ship, which had been placed at our disposal by the United States Government. They returned in four or five days, reporting that they had found biscuit, pemmican, preserved meat, molasses, and some other things; they lived in a wooden observatory that they found erected there. It took them more than half a day to get the snow off the building. Captain Hall's grave looked quite fresh; a head-board, made from the door of a cabin, with an inscription upon it, had been put up to mark the spot. Erno, the dog-driver, was one of the party, and he, having been on the Polaris a couple of years before, could explain everything. Shortly after this, Mr. Beaumont, the First Lieutenant, and Surgeon Coppinger, each of them with an eight-man sledge—that is, seven men besides themselves—started for the Alert, in order to pick up the other sledge which had wintered with the Alert, in which they intended to cross Robeson Channel, for the exploration of North Greenland. We subsequently heard that they took twelve days to reach the Alert, proceeding along the ice-foot and over the floes. The ice-foot is that which extends about eight feet from the shore. It affords more facility for travelling than that which is farther from the land. Two days after this another party, consisting of a twelve-man sledge and an eight-man sledge, with two officers, left for the exploration of Lady Franklin Sound. The Captain accompanied this party in the eight-man sledge, and returned after a week. At that time there were twenty-four men up north sledging, twenty more at Lady Franklin Sound, and the Captain, with a few officers and men, were with the ship. After about a fortnight the twelve-man sledge, which had gone merely as an aid, conveying provisions for the other, returned to the ship, the sledge having sustained some damage. One of the marines had been severely frostbitten in the heel, and he had to be brought the whole way in the sledge. The other sledge returned after a total absence of nearly four weeks, having established the fact that Lady Franklin Strait—so called by the Americans—was a sound or fiord, about sixty miles in length. They saw three or four glaciers on their way, and hills about 3000 ft. high. They saw some musk oxen, the first seen in that season; but they were very wild and could not be got at. They took to the steep sides of the hills, like goats, rolling down great masses of rock. They seemed to be very wild at that time of the year, but ordinarily they are almost as tame as any cows. About June the weather was beginning to get somewhat warmer, and the sun had some power. The ice-houses melted rapidly. I have seen the thermometer there at 120 deg. in the sun. A few days after the sledging party returned from Lady Franklin Sound they set out to cross Hall's Rest, or Polaris Bay, taking with them a life-boat, which they thought might be necessary if the ice should break, and also provisions to support the North Greenland party on their arrival. They afterwards found the duty of leaving provisions, a dog-sledge, and a canoe, they returned to the ship. They left behind two officers and three men, and these latter proceeded to explore Petermann Fiord. They could not proceed more than eighteen miles up the fiord, being stopped by a great glacier and crevasses; so they returned. On their

THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION.



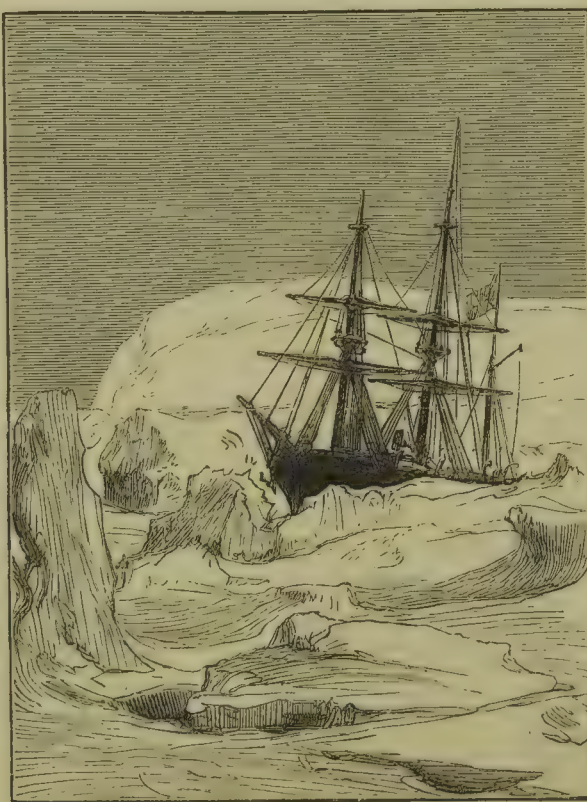
DISCOVERY BAY.



THE SHIPS MAKING THEIR WAY THROUGH A NARROW CHANNEL IN THE ICE—THE DISCOVERY LEADING.



A CHARACTER IN "VILLIKINS AND HIS DINAH,"
ON BOARD THE ALERT.



THE ALERT FROM WATERING BERG.



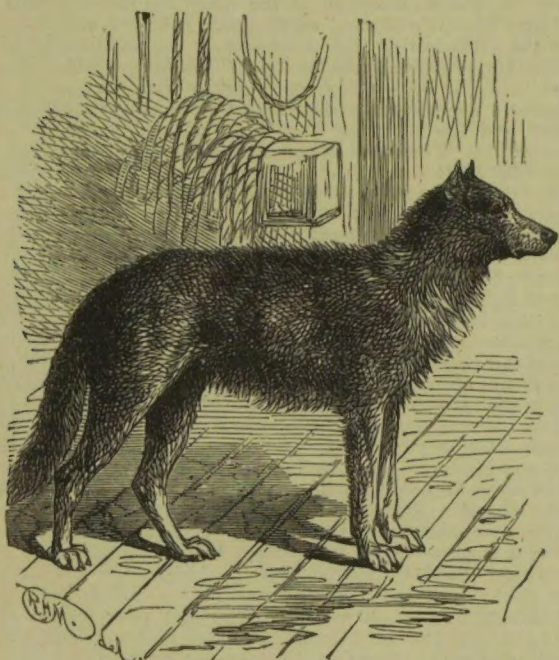
CHARACTERS FROM "ALADDIN; OR, THE WONDERFUL
SCAMP," AS ACTED ON BOARD THE ALERT.



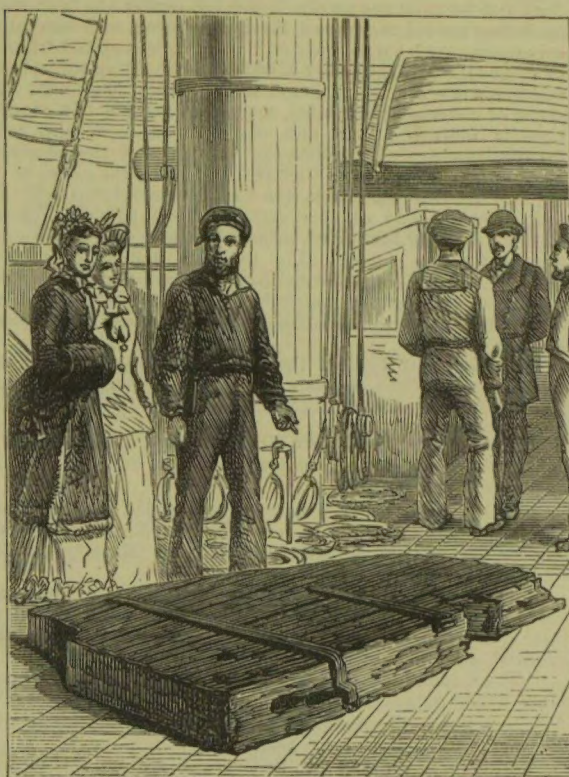
THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION: SUNDAY MORNING ON BOARD THE ALERT IN MID-WINTER.

THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION.

return they found that Lieutenant Rawson, with a party of four men, of whom one had died of scurvy on the way, had returned to the place, having become detached from the North Greenland party; they were all attacked with scurvy except Mr. Rawson and a marine. It was on June 3 they arrived. One of the two officers who had explored Petermann Fiord was Dr. Coppinger, and he was able to treat the sick men he found. There is no doubt that but for his skill and care they would have been in a bad condition. The Esquimaux who was with them proceeded to shoot seals and was successful. The seals'



BOXER, ESQUIMAUX DOG,
BORN ON THE BEACH AT DISCOVERY BAY.



BROKEN RUDDER OF THE ALERT.

also, but slightly; and so the three men had to drag along in the sledge the four sick men, carrying forward two of them to-day and going back for the other two to-morrow. They also had not any food left when the doctor and Mr. Rawson arrived. They first of all determined to remain where they were for a while, and see if the Esquimaux could shoot a seal; but, after having remained there for a day, they pronounced it impracticable, and so they then resolved to take the two men who were worse with the sickness on the dog-sledge and drag them to Hall's Rest. This they did after a day's travel. The men seemed at first to revive on getting seal soup and proper food; but one of them sank, and died the morning after arriving—the other was in a critical condition for some time. The whole party was unwell, and the place was almost turned into a hospital. After a time an officer, with men and a dog-sledge, was sent across to report to the ship the condition of the party. This was about the

end of June, and he crossed with difficulty, as the ice was then breaking up, in about three days. The Captain immediately fitted out a relief party, consisting of seven of the strongest men in the ship and himself, and set out, taking with them medicines and various comforts to the sick men. They set out next morning, carrying a boat and sledge in a car with four wheels—thus crossing the land to the place where it was necessary to take to the sea, a distance of about six miles. Occasionally they would have to use a boat to ferry themselves and the sledge, whenever there was a break in the ice. They



NELLIE, BLACK RETRIEVER,
RETURNED FROM THE POLAR REGIONS.

returned in a few days, bringing half the men with them, leaving Mr. Beaumont and Dr. Coppinger to remain with the worse half, to recover their strength and to cross in a week's time. Two or three days after this the party reached the ship. This was in the beginning of August, and at this time an officer arrived from the Alert overland, reporting that she had come south, and was ten miles off, and that further progress was obstructed by ice. Captain Nares had resolved to return home this year if possible. The North Greenland party, which had gone fifty miles north, now



THE RETURN OF THE SHIPS TO PORTSMOUTH.

returned also, and reported that there was still land beyond them, trending to the eastward. They had to return because their provisions were exhausted. In a few days the Alert managed to forge her way into Discovery Bay, and got up to the Discovery. Lieutenant Beaumont's party not having returned, some anxiety was felt regarding them, as the ice was beginning to break up in the channel. Captain Nares resolved to take the Alert into the channel and look for them. He accordingly sent twenty or thirty of his men who were sick on board the Discovery. He tried to get out into the channel, but was stopped by ice near the entrance to the harbour. Two or three days after this Mr. Beaumont's party came up with the Alert. They had been drifted to the west, and had great difficulty in making their way back. This was on Aug. 14. When they got back next day they came on board the Discovery, and, having prepared for sea, we then attempted to leave the harbour, but were delayed for a few days by the state of the ice. We finally got out on Sunday, Aug. 28, and returned homewards. It might be as well at this point to mention some geographical facts. Mr. Aldrich traced the coast-line for about 200 miles to the westward. The most northerly point he attained was a latitude of 82 deg. 20 min. in a longitude of 84 deg. 56 min. W. On our way down we made a very good run the first day, but were afterwards much obstructed by the ice for a few weeks—some days travelling three or four miles, other days not being able to move. It was a long time before we got past Hayes Sound. We then despaired of being able to get down this year at all; the frost was going on and the ice forming around the ship, and again and again we had to force our way by ramming—that is, sending the ship at full steam against the barrier. Once or twice we had to have all the ship's company out on the ice, and blast it away, so as to make a passage for her. At last we got into open water, and reached Cape Isabella. I should have stated that Mr. Beaumont was out with his party (eastward) 131 days from the ship. He went to 82 deg. 20 min. of latitude and 52 deg. W. longitude. His observations were directed to the nature of the country, which he found out by numerous floods. He saw land to the northward, probably latitude 83 deg. Captain Nares's party states that they saw no land to the north, but this was in a different direction. In that latitude Mr. Beaumont found traces of hares, but there was no living being. We reached Port Lively, in the Island of Disco, on Sept. 25, about six o'clock in the evening, and found that the Pandora had left five days before. Some letters awaited some of the officers, which had been brought from Copenhagen by Danish brigs. Here the Alert took in thirty tons of coal, and we stayed from Monday to the following Thursday, when we left about seven o'clock a.m. While in our winter quarters we sent out some shooting parties of officers, who used to find good sport in musk oxen, hares, and brent geese. The vessel had received no injuries worth mentioning. About a week before we left winter quarters we found in a ravine, about four miles from the ship, a vein of coal, very much like the best Welsh coal, 25 ft. thick. We also caught with a net some excellent salmon and trout. The naturalist collected about fifty specimens of plants in the neighbourhood. The vegetation is very scanty; but on the slopes, which are watered by melting snow, you might see a good deal of red and green moss; dwarf willows, a few inches high, are also to be found there, and saxifrage and scurvy grass, but that appears mostly to be brown and dead."

RESULTS OF THE EXPEDITION.

We take from the current number of the *Geographical Magazine*, edited by Mr. Clements Markham, C.B., F.R.S., Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, the following estimate of the results and actual performances of this expedition:—

"The objects in view were the exploration of as large an area as possible of the unknown region round the North Pole, by the best route by which the threshold of that unknown region can be approached—namely, that by Smith Sound; the discovery of the conditions of land and sea, and the investigation of the phenomena in various branches of science within that area. These objects have been fully and completely secured."

"In attaining such results the Expedition of 1875-6 has excelled all others both in the work it has done and as regards the hardships it faced and overcame. Commander Markham and Lieutenant Parr, with their gallant sledge crews, have been further north—nearer the Pole—than any other human beings. After almost superhuman efforts, they reached 83 deg. 20 min. N. Before the memorable day when these gallant men thus won the palm, the highest latitude ever reached was that attained by Parry, thirty-five miles to the south, in 82 deg. 45 min. N., on July 23, 1827. Parry's achievement was unrivalled until Commander Markham passed beyond his furthest, nearly half a century afterwards. H.M.S. Alert has been further north than any other vessel—namely, in 82 deg. 28 min. N. The Polar is alleged to have been in 82 deg. 16 min. N.; but she was not really in so high a latitude by several miles. Next, but far behind, comes Captain Scoresby's vessel, which was in 81 deg. 30 min. N., in May, 1806; the Swedish steamer *Sophia*, which reached 81 deg. 42 min. N.; and Mr. Leigh Smith's yacht, in 81 deg. 24 min. N. The *Hecla*, with Sir Edward Parry, in 1827, attained to 81 deg. 5 min. N. The Alert also wintered further north than any human beings had ever wintered before, in 82 deg. 27 min. N. The winter quarters of the Polar were only in 81 deg. 38 min. N., south of those of the Discovery (81 deg. 44 min. N.). Consequently, the officers and crew of the Alert passed through the longest period of darkness, without seeing the sun, that has ever been faced by human beings—namely, 142 days. They also endured the most intense Arctic cold that has ever been registered, the temperature having been 59 deg. below zero for thirteen consecutive days, and the lowest temperature having been 74 deg. below zero."

"But these were merely incidents in the execution of the great and important work to be done, noteworthy mainly as showing the extraordinary difficulties and perils of the undertaking."

"On the return of the extended parties, in the summer of this year, Captain Nares was able to review the work that had been achieved, and he found that the terrible sufferings his people had endured, the dangers and hardships they had faced and overcome, the losses they had to mourn, were not in vain. In one season the results thus manfully obtained had secured full and complete success."

"The character of the great frozen Polar Ocean had been ascertained, and the observations relating to it are most important to the science of hydrography. A coast-line extending for 50 deg. of longitude along the Polar Ocean has been discovered and explored. The geology of the whole of the newly-discovered region, as well as of the country from Cape Isabella to Cape Union, was ascertained, and large collections of fossils and rocks were made. It was found that the coal, showing the existence of an evergreen forest on the island of Disco, extended at least as far as 81 deg. 44 min. N. Corals, probably of the carboniferous period, were met with still

further north, and the evidence respecting the rise of the land will explain many phenomena in Arctic geology which have hitherto been puzzling. A most complete collection of the flora and fauna of the newly-discovered region has been made, including the inhabitants of the Polar Ocean, and careful observations have been recorded on the migrations and distribution of animal life. Commander Markham brought up several crustaceans in seventy-two fathoms, in lat. 83 deg. 20 min. N. The series of meteorological, tidal, magnetic, and electric observations is most complete, and observations were also taken for spectrum analysis. With the exception of the pendulum observations, which were rendered useless by the effect of the extreme cold on the clock, the Expedition returns with full and complete sets of observations, taken at two different stations, in every branch of science to which the attention of the officers was called. The accurate delineation of coast lines, both in the long channel from Smith Sound to the Polar Ocean, and along the northern coasts of Grant Land and Greenland, comprise most important additions to geographical knowledge."

"Thus the success of the Expedition was thorough and complete when Captain Nares broke out of his winter quarters, on July 29, and proceeded homewards."

THANKS AND REWARDS.

The following Royal Message has been communicated by official authority:—

"Her Majesty the Queen has commanded the First Lord of the Admiralty to express to Captain Nares and to the officers and men under his command her Majesty's hearty congratulations on their safe return."

"The Queen highly appreciates the valuable services rendered by them in the late Arctic Expedition; and her Majesty fully sympathises in the hardships and sufferings they have endured, and laments the loss of life which has occurred."

"The Queen further directs that her thanks should be conveyed to the gallant men for what they have accomplished."

The following promotions for services in connection with the Arctic Expedition have been made:—Commander Albert H. Markham, of the Alert, to be Captain. Lieutenants Pelham Aldrich, of the Alert, Lewis A. Beaumont, of the Discovery, and Alexander A. C. Parr, of the Alert, to be Commanders. Sub-Lieutenant C. F. M. Conybeare, of the Discovery, to be Lieutenant. Staff-Surgeon Belgrave Ninnis, of the Discovery, to be Fleet Surgeon. Surgeons E. L. Moss, of the Alert, and R. W. Copping, of the Discovery, to be Staff Surgeons. Engineers Daniel Cartmel, of the Discovery, and James Wooton, of the Alert, to be Chief Engineers. Assistant-Paymaster Thomas Mitchell, of the Discovery, to be Paymaster."

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The numerous Engravings presented by us this week are either from the photographs taken by different persons on board of the Alert and Discovery or who accompanied the sledge parties, or from sketches and drawings, several of which are by Mr. Frederick Cane, armourer of the Alert. Their subjects, in a few instances, require to be briefly noticed here."

The illustration on our front page is intended to convey some idea of the sort of "road" which has to be travelled in the Far North, and affords a fair specimen of the thoroughfare available for sledges between the Alert and Discovery. This photograph was taken while the party were waiting for the kettle to boil for lunch at Cape Frederick VII., the southern cape of Lincoln Bay."

The first Engraving on the fourth page of the same sheet represents a "floe-berg" aground, in about ten fathoms of water, off the beach at the winter quarters of the Alert. The word "floe-berg" is applied by Captain Nares to those masses of ice which have been shoved on shore and broken off from an ice-floe. It was within a row of these that the Alert was fortunate enough to find shelter during the winter."

The page Engraving, opposite to that last mentioned, shows the Alert pressed close to the shore by ice about 40 ft. in thickness, which was forced aground outside of her. The pressure still continuing, she received a disagreeable nip, which raised her stern 5 ft. out of the water. The ice which had collected inside the ship prevented her being driven on shore. A large floe-berg aground, which for some time kept the ice from disturbing the ship, had been previously capsized by a heavy floe coming down with wind and tide, which forced it end over end, rearing it up to a height of 70 ft., until, falling on its back, it broke into numerous pieces."

The projecting point of a heavy floe would first ground in from ten to twelve fathoms of water; then the outer mass, continuing its course, unable to stop its progress, would tear itself away from its cast-off portion. The pressure, however, still continuing, the severed piece was forced, and frequently by the parent mass itself, up the steeply inclined shore, rising slowly and majestically out of the water 10 ft. or 12 ft. above its old line of flotation, and remaining usually nearly upright. The motion was entirely different to that produced when two ordinary floes, some 4 ft. or 6 ft. thick, met together; then the broken edges of the two pieces of ice, each striving for the mastery, are readily upheaved and continually fall over with a noisy crash. Here the enormous pressure, raising pieces frequently 30,000 tons in weight, in comparative silence, displays itself with becoming solemnity and grandeur. What occurs when two 80 ft. floes meet we cannot say; but the result, as far as a ship is concerned, floating, as the ice does, higher out of the water than herself, would be much the same as the closing together of the two sides of a dry dock, on the confined vessel."

The manner in which the two ships were enabled to assist each other in manœuvring, dodging, or forcing their way through a narrow winding passage among the shifting pieces of ice, is shown in one of our Illustrations. Here we see the Discovery leading; and Captain Nares, in his official report, thus speaks of it:—"The Discovery was handled by Captain Stephenson and her officers in the most masterly and daring manner, combined with great judgment, qualities essential in Arctic navigation. She, as well as the Alert, ran not a few hair-breadth escapes. Having less beam than the Alert, and a finer bow, with the very great advantage of an overhanging stem, the Discovery is better adapted for forcing her way through a pack. It will be difficult ever to efface from my mind the determined manner in which, when the bluff-bowed leading ship had become imbedded in the ice, which by her impetus against it had accumulated round and sunk under her bows, and a great quantity, by floating to the surface again in her wake, had helplessly inclosed her abaft, the Discovery was handled in her advancing to our rescue. Having backed some distance astern, for the double purpose of allowing the debris ice from a former blow to float away, and for the vessel to attain distance sufficient for the accumulation of momentum with which to strike a second blow, coming ahead at her utmost speed she would force her way into the ice, burying her bows in it as far aft as the foremast; the commanding officer on the bowsprit carefully conning the ship to an inch, for had the ice not been struck fairly it would have caused her to cannon off it against ourselves, with much havoc to the two. From the moment of the first impact the overhanging stem necessarily

caused the ship's bow to rise three or four feet as she advanced from twelve to twenty feet into the solid floe, and imbedded herself, before the force of the blow was expended; and as the ship's way was stopped, the overhanging weight, by settling down, crushed the ice down still further ahead. Frequently on these occasions her jibboom was within touching distance of the Alert's boats! But, after a little experience had been gained, such confidence had we in each other that there was not the slightest swerving in any one instance."

The remainder of our Illustrations are mostly those which represent the incidents of sledge-travelling, and some of the private theatricals and other amusements on board the Alert during the long winter night. Of the latter, we need not say much more than that they were heartily performed and enjoyed; Commander Markham and other officers, with the Rev. Mr. Pullen, Chaplain of the Alert, the clever author of "Dame Europa's School," exerted their skill, wit, and humour for the diversion of their comrades. The familiar plays of "Aladdin, the Wonderful Scamp," "Villikins and his Dinah," and "A Little Vulgar Boy," were got up with equal spirit and success. Two favourite dogs with the respective crews of the Alert and the Discovery have been deemed worthy of our portraiture. The black retriever, "Nelly," was taken out on board the Alert, and she did not mind the Arctic cold at all; when it was dangerous to touch almost anything with the bare hand, Nelly would run about with a piece of ice in her mouth. The Eskimo dog, "Boxer," was born on the beach in Discovery Bay, near where the ship Discovery lay during the winter; this dog was seven months when he was sketched. The use of Eskimo dogs in drawing sledges, the manner of harnessing them in a team, and that of fastening them up in a night encampment are to be seen in other Illustrations. The sledge-travelling parties usually carried a couple of boats to get across any creeks or breaks in the ice. While upon a sledge-expedition the men worked about ten hours a day, commencing at six o'clock, and resting in the middle of the day. They slept in tents, which formed part of their equipment. Their sleeping arrangements seem to have been excellent. A waterproof sheet was laid on the snow, and upon this the beds were placed. Then the men, clad in their heavy winter clothing, nestled into bags which formed their bed, and covered themselves up completely, to exclude the cold air. Two more particular incidents are to be pointed out, among the subjects of our Illustrations—namely, the funeral and burial in the ice, of one of the three or four poor fellows who died of scurvy; and the brave adventure of Lieutenant Parr, starting off quite alone from Commander Markham's northern sledge party, at Cape Joseph Henry, on June 6, to walk thirty miles and send back help from the ship. Without such help, it is most likely, the whole party would have sunk beneath the fatigues of their return journey. Lieutenant Parr walked the distance in twenty-two hours, over a very rough icy road deeply covered with new-fallen snow. He carried only a small store of food, and an Alpenstock, and never rested long by the way. The Sunday performance of Divine worship on board ship is the subject of a large Engraving for our Extra Supplement. It took place on deck, beneath the shelter of an awning, which was adorned with icicles during the long winter. The last of our Illustrations shows the happy arrival of the Alert and Discovery at Portsmouth, where thousands of visitors have seen them in the past week."

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will, dated June 6, 1876, of her Majesty Josephina Maximilian Eugenia Napoleona, Queen Dowager of Sweden and Norway, who died, on June 7 last, at Stockholm, was proved in London on the 1st inst. by his Majesty Oscar the Second, King of Sweden and Norway, as the natural and lawful son and one of the next of kin of the deceased, there being no executor or residuary legatee named in the will, the personal estate in England being sworn under £140,000. The testator recites that the property in which she has a life interest will devolve on her said son, her daughter the Princess Eugenie of Sweden and Norway, and her granddaughter, the Crown Princess of Denmark, in equal shares; and that her said son will also become entitled to the purchase money of the Dukedom of Galicia, amounting to 600,000 kronor, in which estate an entail was created in her favour by Napoleon the First, as a christening present, and to her male descendants in a right line by primogeniture; on a failure of her male descendants the property would revert to the Napoleon family. To her grandsons, Oscar, Carl, and Eugene, the testatrix leaves 500,000 kronor each, and a sum of 1,000,000 kronor is to be set aside as a capital out of which annuities are to be paid to members of her Court households of Sweden and Norway; her maids of honour are to receive pensions of 2000 kronor each, and the marshal of her household one of 3000 kronor; eventually such capital sum is to revert to her said three grandsons; to each of the Catholic parishes of Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmo, and Christiania she gives 20,000 kronor each; and to the board for the relief of the poor of the parish of Hôls, the Society for a Tender and Honest Maternal Care, and the Society for the Encouragement of Industry, 10,000 kronor each. Specific bequests are made of her plate and jewellery among the members of her family, some of the principal being settled on the King and his successors in the Crown of Norway and Sweden without power of alienation."

The will, dated Feb. 11, 1875, of Mr. Hedworth Lambton, late of No. 8, Lansdowne-place, Brighton, who died on Sept. 16 last, was proved on the 25th ult. by the Hon. Arthur Fitzgerald Kinnaird, the sole executor, the personal estate being sworn under £25,000. The testator bequeaths to the London City Mission £1000, and legacies to several of his relatives and servants; the residue of his property he leaves to his great-nephew, Hedworth Lambton."

The will, dated Oct. 14, 1859, of Sir Thomas Dickson Archibald, one of the Judges of the Common Pleas Division of the High Court of Justice, who died on the 18th ult., at No. 7, Porchester-gate, was proved on the 30th ult. by Dame Sarah Archibald, the widow and sole executrix, to whom he gives, devises, and bequeaths all his real and personal estate. The personal estate is sworn under £7000."

The will, with a codicil, of the late Mr. Marmaduke Blake Sampson, formerly City editor of the *Times*, was proved by his executors, Mr. Howard Paddison and the Rev. James Burrow, on Oct. 26 last, the personality being sworn under £60,000. The testator left all his real and personal estate to his executors upon trusts, for payment thereout to his wife of £1500 a year during her life, and for the payment of an annuity to Mr. M. G. G. de Bouyer of £500 during his life; and, after the payment of certain pecuniary legacies therein mentioned, the testator gave the residue of his property to Percy Heurtley, son of the late Ann Heurtley, and to her daughter Juliet, in equal shares."

The Dublin Corporation has determined upon a scheme which contemplates as a beginning the outlay of nearly £20,000 in creating health spaces in Dublin by clearing away old buildings, the nests of disease, in which the working population is overcrowded."

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR FRANCIS SHUCKBURGH, BART.

Sir Francis Shuckburgh, eighth Baronet, of Shuckburgh, in the county of Warwick, F.R.S., died on the 29th ult. He was born in 1800, the eldest son of Sir Stukeley Shuckburgh, Bart., and succeeded to the baronetcy at his father's death, in 1809. He was a J.P. and D.L. for Warwickshire, and served as High Sheriff in 1844. He married, Oct. 27, 1825, Anne Maria Draycott, daughter of the late Peter Denys, Esq. (by Lady Charlotte, his wife, daughter of George, second Earl of Pomfret), and leaves one daughter, Charlotte Georgiana Amelia, wife of the Rev. John Errington, M.A., Vicar of Ashbourne, Derbyshire, and one son, now Sir George Thomas Francis Shuckburgh, ninth Baronet, a Major in the Army, who was born in 1829. Sir George served in the Crimean War at the Alma, Balaklava, Inkermann (where he was severely wounded), and Sebastopol, and has the Crimean medal and clasp and the Turkish war medal. This family derives its name from Shuckburgh, in the county of Warwick, where it has been seated since the beginning of the twelfth century. The baronetcy was created in 1660.

COLONEL TOWNELEY.

Charles Towneley, Esq., of Towneley, in the county of Lancaster, J.P. and D.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., trustee of the British Museum, and Honorary Colonel 5th Royal Lancashire Militia, died on the 4th inst. He was born January, 1803, the elder son of Peregrine Edward Towneley, Esq., of Towneley, by Charlotte Theresa, his wife, fourth daughter of Robert Drummond, Esq., of Codlands, Hants. He was educated at St. Mary's College, Oscott, succeeded to the family estates at the death of his father in 1846, and served as High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1857. In 1848 and again in 1852 he was elected M.P. for Sligo. He married, Nov. 20, 1836, Lady Caroline Harriet Molyneux, daughter of William Philip, second Earl of Sefton, by whom, who died Feb. 8, 1866, he had three daughters—viz., Caroline Louisa, who married, July 10, 1858, Montagu Arthur, Lord Norreys, eldest son of the Earl of Abingdon, and died Sept. 4, 1873; Emily Frances, married, Aug. 6, 1863, to Lord Alexander Gordon-Lennox; and Alice Mary, married, Aug. 2, 1871, to Thomas, Lord O'Hagan. Colonel Towneley thus leaving no male issue, is succeeded in his landed estates by his brother, Colonel John Towneley, now of Towneley, formerly M.P. for Beverley. He is married to Lucy Ellen, youngest daughter of the late Sir Henry Joseph Tichborne, Bart. The Towneleys of Towneley, like the Scropes of Danby, the Giffards of Chillington, the FitzHerberts of Swinerton, the Hornolds of Blackmore Park, the Herberts of Llanarth, &c., are one of those grand old Catholic families which, with ancestry and possessions rivaling those of the most distinguished nobility, still remain on the roll of the untitled aristocracy.

The deaths are also announced of the Right Hon. Lydia, Viscountess Dillon, daughter of Philip Laycock Story, Esq., and widow of Charles Henry, fourteenth Viscount Dillon, brother of the present peer;—of the Right Hon. Julia Maria, Lady Kesteven, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Sheffield, Bart., and widow of John, first Lord Kesteven, father of the present Lord;—of Frances Susanna, Lady Young, widow of Sir Charles George Young, late Garter King-of-Arms, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Lovick Cooper and niece of the eminent surgeon, Sir Astley Cooper, Bart.;—of Lady Anne Florinda Monck, eldest daughter of the late Earl of Rathdowne, aged sixty-nine;—of Dowager Lady Codrington, widow of Sir William Raymond Codrington, fourth Baronet, aged seventy-three;—of Helenora, wife of Sir William Maxwell, Bart., of Monreith, and youngest daughter of Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart, Bart.;—of Charles Isidore Hemans, author of a "History of Mediæval Christianity and Sacred Art in Italy" and "Historic and Monumental Rome," son of Felicia Hemans, the poetess;—of Colonel John Morris Savage, late Royal Artillery, son of General Sir John Boscawen Savage, K.C.B., K.C.H.;—of Edmund Smithwick, Esq., of Kilkenny House, Kilkenny, director of the Kilkenny branch of the National Bank and an extensive brewer in his native city (in former times one of O'Connell's warmest partisans in the contest for Emancipation), aged seventy-six;—of the Very Rev. Canon Falvey, parish priest of St. Patrick's and Precentor of the Cathedral of the diocese of Cork, aged seventy-eight;—of Lady Bellairs, widow of Sir William Bellairs (late 15th Hussars), of Mulbarton, Norfolk, and daughter of the late Edmund Hooke, Esq., barrister-at-law;—of Francis Ford Pinder, Esq., barrister-at-law, of Brookfield, Bath, aged fifty-four;—of Major W.P. Brisley, Paymaster Royal Artillery;—and of Mrs. Aylmer Blake, widow of the late eminent Queen's counsel, James Henry Blake, of St. Stephen's-green, Dublin: for the last fourteen years of her life she represented the second branch of the Aylmer family, traced back to A.D. 1300.

The state apartments at Windsor Castle will be closed on and after to-day until further orders.

Captain J. E. Severne, a Conservative, was, yesterday week, elected, without opposition, for South Shropshire, in succession to the late Major-General Sir Percy Herbert.

The Royal Society's medals for the present year have been awarded by the council as follows:—The Copley medal to Professor Claude Bernard, For. Mem. R.S.; for his numerous contributions to the science of physiology; a Royal medal to Mr. William Froude, F.R.S., for his researches, both theoretical and experimental, on the behaviour of ships; a Royal medal to Sir Wyville Thompson, for his successful direction of the scientific investigations carried on by her Majesty's ship Challenger; the Rumford medal to Mr. Pierre Jules César Janssen, For. Mem. R.S., for his numerous and important researches in the radiation and absorption of light, carried on chiefly by means of the spectroscopic.

The London and Dover Female Convalescent Home, which was established in 1870, has gradually increased in numbers and efficiency year by year. It has received during this year above 1120 invalids, of whom many were ladies of reduced means and governesses, though the majority were drawn from the shop, needle, and working classes. Of these, 1056 have returned to their work with renewed health and spirit for the battle of life, thankful for the rest, fresh air, and good diet, and rejoicing in their renovated health. To receive so large a number the funds have been severely taxed; but, rather than curtail this much-needed work, the council of management prefer to submit it to the consideration of the benevolent. Information may be obtained from the lady superintendent, Mrs. Marshman, 2, Redcliffe-square, S.W., by whom subscriptions will be thankfully received.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

F.V. PERKINS.—Your previous communication was acknowledged in our impression of Oct. 28.
RUDOLF CARL and O. STREICHNER (Vienna).—Quite correct.
F.R.D.—Many thanks for your information. We are afraid there is a flaw in your problem, as the Bishop can be played on the first move to either K's 7th or K's 8th. Is not this so?

J.G. FINCH.—Thanks for the amended version.
H. BREWER.—We are greatly obliged by the game.
J. NEUMANN.—The problem shall have examination. In future, however, we must request you to describe the positions on diagrams.
J. BYNG.—We always endeavour to acknowledge all solutions that are sent to us, but of course it is possible that one or two are occasionally overlooked. There is no charge of any kind.

A.J.S.—1. The authorities are not agreed: but we have no doubt that La Bourdonnais was much the superior player. 2. Mr. George Walker, we are happy to say, is in the land of the living.

H. THORNTON.—We have seen a medallion portrait of the late Mr. Staunton, but cannot inform you where a copy may be obtained.

S.R.V.—In Problem No. 1702 you overlook the fact that, in reply to your proposed move of 1. Kt to K Kt 4th, Black can play 1. Kt to K 6th.

PROBLEM No. 1705.—Additional correct solutions received from P.S. Shenale. Those by J.F. Baulch, J.G. Finch, and S. Landells are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 1706.—We have received the author's solution from T.A. Hind, C.E., G.H.V., E.H.H.V., and W. Pavin. Several correspondents, including Amphictyon, N.B.S., Matt. Proctor, W.B. Smith, Hereward, W. Paulton, J. Byng, East Marsden, Roi Noir, have hit upon the author's "key move," but failed to note Black's defence of 1. B to K 7th, which is the whole gist of the position. We must refer P.S. Shenale, Woolwich Chess Club, W. Lesson, W.F. Payne, R.H. Brooks, Benet, and Cambridge to some remarks upon the problem below. Solutions by E.W. Fry, W.J. Dixie, and A. Wood are wrong.

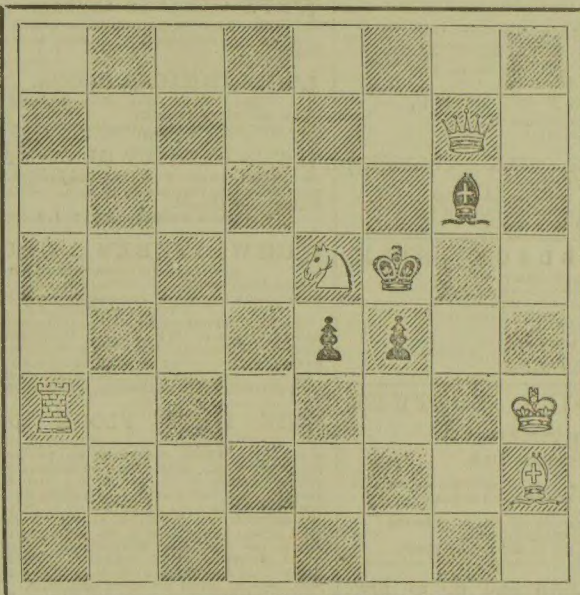
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1706.

We find that this problem admits of a solution commencing with 1. Q to Q Kt 3rd, as, if Black reply with 1. B to Q B 6th—the defence upon which the author relied—the answer is 2. R to Q 8th, forcing mate next move. We believe, however, that the addition of a Black Pawn at Black's Queen's Rook's 5th renders the position sound. We shall hold over the solution until next week.

PROBLEM No. 1708.

By Mr. G. E. BARBIER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS AT BRESLAU.

Played at Breslau, Sept. 22, between Professor ANDERSEN and Mr. S. HAMEL, the President of the Nottingham Chess Club. (Gioco Piano.)

WHITE (Mr. H.)	BLACK (Prof. A.)	WHITE (Mr. H.)	BLACK (Prof. A.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	23. P to K Kt 4th	Kt to K B 3rd
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	24. Kt to Kt 6th (ch)	
3. B to Q B 4th	B to Q B 4th		
4. P to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd		
5. P to Q 3rd			

Not inappreciated by Jaenisch the "Gioco Pianissimo."

6. B to K Kt 5th	P to Q 3rd	25. R takes R (ch)	P takes Kt
7. Castles	B to Q Kt 3rd	26. Q takes R P (ch)	Kt to R 2nd
8. Q Kt to Q 2nd	K to R sq	27. Q takes P	R to K Kt sq
9. B to Q Kt 3rd		28. Q to R 5th	R to Kt 4th

Preliminary to playing the Knight to Q B 4th, with the object of getting rid of the adverse King's Bishop.

10. Kt to Q B 4th	Q to K sq	29. P to K R 3rd	Q to K B 3rd
11. Kt takes B	Kt to K Kt sq		
12. Kt to K R 4th	P to K B 4th		
13. P takes P	B takes P		
14. P to K B 4th	B to K 3rd		
15. B takes B	Q takes B		
16. P to K B 5th	Q to Q 2nd		
17. Q to K R 5th			

White has now a very menacing position.

The only resource. Had he played the other Knight to this square, his opponent would have rejoined with 18. P to K 6th.

18. R to K B 3rd

The check at Kt's 6th looks tempting, but on examination it leads to nothing.

19. B takes Kt	Kt to K B 3rd	31. Q to K Kt 3rd	Q to K R 3rd
20. Q R to K B sq	R takes B	32. P to K R 4th	R to K Kt sq
21. Q to Kt 5th	Kt to K R 3rd	33. R to K B 2nd	P to K 5th
22. R to K R 3rd	R to K B sq		

and, after a few moves, White resigned.

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

MALVERN COLLEGE CHESS CLUB.—We are glad to hear that the chess club established in connection with this college is now in a most flourishing condition, and numbers 150 members.

THE NEW YORK "CLIPPER" TOURNAMENT.—This tournament was brought to a conclusion on the 18th of last month, the three principal prizes being awarded as follows:—

	Won.	Lost.	
Mr. Mason	16	3	First prize.
Mr. Delmar	15½	2½	Second prize.
Mr. Bird	15	2	Third prize.

The result, we understand, gave rise to a considerable manifestation of feeling, it being no secret that there had been something very like collusion to prevent Mr. Bird from winning the first prize, three of the weakest players in the tourney—viz., Messrs. McCutcheon, Rosen, and Becker—two of whom had lost to Messrs. Mason and Delmar, withdrawing at the last moment, without playing their games with Mr. Bird. By the rules of the tournament all games, whether lost or won, counted, but no games were permitted to be scored by default; so that, in point of fact, Mr. Bird actually played two games less than Mr. Mason and one less than Mr. Delmar: whereas had he met and defeated the three recalcitrant players, as in all likelihood would have been the case, he would have come out the winner of the first prize. We are sorry to find that professionalism is finding its way into American chess.

The Rev. Alexander M'Auley, president of the Wesleyan Conference, has decided to hold a convention at Camborne, Cornwall. The date fixed is Dec. 19. He has invited all the ministers in the district to be present.

The Town Council of Wisbeach have decided to promote a bill next Session for the construction of a floating dock and for making a new channel for the river Nene from a point just below Wisbeach.

EDUCATION.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

The inspectors of the London School Board, whose reports are annually presented as Parliamentary papers, have presented to the board their reports on the six years' educational work in London, and the effects of this work in the education of the child population in the metropolis.

The inspectors report separately, Mr. Noble, the senior inspector, giving the results of his experience in the three School Board divisions of Greenwich, Southwark, and Lambeth. He states that the board has provided in these districts forty-seven new schools, while others are in course of completion, besides eight which have been transferred—namely, four Church schools, four British and ragged schools, and thirty temporary schools. In all, there are thus eighty-five schools under the London School Board in these divisions, giving a total accommodation for 49,093 children of all ages, being an increased accommodation in the year, without reckoning that which will be given by the new schools now being opened, for nearly 10,000 children.

The report of Mr. Ricks deals with the schools in the divisions of the City, Chelsea, Finsbury, Marylebone, and Westminster, together with a part of the division of Lambeth, taking in the schools around Clapham Junction. In this combined "district," Mr. Ricks has charge of sixty-eight board schools, and the "number on the books" at the beginning of the year was 36,000, and at the close (the end of July) 43,600, while the accommodation for this number was only 40,500. Mr. Ricks reports a like satisfactory improvement in the regularity of attendance and punctuality as Mr. Noble has noticed. He adds, on a point of great social importance:—"Side by side with the improvement in attendance, there is likewise a marked improvement in cleanliness, tidiness, and general demeanour. The children are ill-clad in very many schools, but ragged and dirty in only few."

The third inspector, Mr. Williams, reports on the board schools in the "east of London"—namely, in Hackney and the Tower Hamlets—sixty-four in all, giving accommodation for 50,600, while the number on the rolls, on the 9th of last month, numbered 51,900. He states that the fear of some people as to the undue multiplication of schools is "unjustifiable and baseless," and that a lessening of attendance in some schools has been caused by raising the fees from 1d. to 2d. a week. In the course of an interesting report, Mr. Williams enters into the subjects dealt with by his colleagues.

This review of the board's six years' work does not include the reformatory and industrial school work, which has been so directed as to deal with the "wastrels" of London; nor do the inspectors touch in detail upon the results effected by the visitors in increasing the numbers in the voluntary schools.

An addition to the schools already established in the Battersea district under the School Board for London was opened yesterday week in Tennyson-road, Queen's-road, Battersea. The school is constructed to accommodate 271 boys, the same number of girls, and 295 infants, making a total of 837. Sir E. H. Currie (Vice-Chairman of the London School Board), who opened this school, presided, last Tuesday evening, at the public opening of a new school in Holden-street, Battersea, with accommodation for 1101 children. This building brings up the number of schools erected in London by the board to 141, exclusive of fifty-five in progress.

The Rev. Barham Zincke gave the opening presidential address to the Society for the Development of the Science of Education in the theatre of the Society of Arts on Wednesday.

The fifteenth series of winter meetings for the working classes, held at the Lambeth Baths, was opened last Saturday evening, under the presidency of Sir J. C. Lawrence, M.P. Alderman M'Arthur, M.P., his colleague in the representation of the borough, was also amongst the speakers.

Mr. Seely, M.P., who recently subscribed £50 towards the formation of a free lending library for the Carisbrooke Board schools, has now placed £500 in the hands of a committee, who will distribute it among such board and voluntary elementary schools in the rural districts of the Isle of Wight as come within the stipulated conditions.

A large institute near Saltburn, one of a pair built by Messrs. Pease for their workmen at the Dronshaw Mines, in Cleveland, at a cost of over £4000, was opened last Saturday by Mr. J. W. Pease, M.P.

Summing up the result of the past six years' working of the Birmingham School Board, yesterday week, Mr. Chamberlain, M.P., drew a glowing picture of the work accomplished. The board had provided accommodation for 2000 children in excess of the number for which it was originally supposed they would have to provide. The total number in attendance during the past week was 40,500, equal to an increase of 150 per cent over the original figures. The board had brought under education in new schools 14,500 children, and had filled all the vacant seats previously existing in denominational schools. There was now accommodation for 47,000 children, and the greatest number present at one time had been 42,500. The average of those who had passed the three standards in Birmingham had been 70 per cent, as compared with an average of 60 per cent throughout the country.

Mr. Mundella, M.P., in distributing prizes, on Tuesday, to the successful children at the Leicester School-Board School, remarked upon the results of the Education Acts, and urged the importance of extending to agricultural districts those compulsory powers which prevail in the principal towns.

The Association for the Promotion of Secondary Education in Scotland have adopted resolutions urging the Government to deal with Scottish educational endowments, and the Universities to provide a special curriculum for teachers.

At the opening of the medical session of Glasgow University, last week, Professor McCall Anderson said few could doubt that a preliminary examination of candidates for admission to the classes was called for; but if proof were required it might be found in the answers given to the following questions submitted to candidates by one of the examining boards:—"What is meant by the antiquity of man?" Answer: "The wickedness of man."—"The letters of Junius?" Answer: "Letters written in the month of June."—"The Crusades?" Answer: "A war against the Roman Catholics during the last century."—"The first meridian?" Answer: "The first hour of the day."—"To speak ironically?" Answer: "To speak about iron."—"A Gordian knot?" Answer: "The arms of the Gordon family."—"The Star Chamber?" Answer: "Place for viewing the stars."—"To sit on the woolstack?" Answer: "To be seated on a sack of wool."—"A solecism?" Answer: "A book on the sun."—"The year of jubilee?" Answer: "Leap-year." They could, the Professor added, have appreciated this last answer all the more heartily had it emanated from one of the female medical students. It is, however, only just on women to admit that they are, as a rule, serious in their studies, and are not in the habit of joking examiners. There is an earnestness of purpose in their efforts to compete with man which entitles them to respect and even imitation.

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